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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Life of William Wilberforce. By his Sons, R. I. Wilberforce, M.A. Vicar of East Farleigh, and Samuel Wilberforce, M.A. Rector of Brightstone. 5 vols. 8vo. London, 1838. Murray.

AN essay on the character of Mr. Wilberforce would be misplaced in a journal like ours; and the principal circumstances of his life are so well known to the public, that any detailed repetition of them would be worse than superfluous. We shall, therefore, dwell very briefly on either, as we endeavour to afford our readers an idea of the nature of this interesting publication.

Perhaps the greatest and best effect which it is calculated to produce, and one which consequently deserves to be noticed first, is, that it holds out a bright and cheering example to Christianity. In the serious conversion of Mr. Wilberforce there is nothing to revolt even the worldly understanding. If he left the ways of frivolity and folly, it was to adopt the quiet paths of piety, and not the turbulent aberrations of fanaticism; and from his course the lukewarm and the enthusiast may alike be taught the lesson of the true road to usefulness, honour, happiness, and peace.

Of an ancient family, and the son of a wealthy merchant in Hull, from whom and his grandfather he inherited a good fortune, William Wilberforce was born at Hull on the 24th of August, 1759. At nine years of age, on the death of his father, he was removed to an uncle's, at Wimbledon, where, during three years, he imbibed very strict and devout principles. On his return to Hull, great efforts were made to modify these; and he entered into all the gaieties of life, which he continued at Cambridge, where he studied at St. John's College. Elected for Hull, when he came of age, he devoted himself to public business, and soon became a conspicuous member of the legislature. His friendship with William Pitt, and association with the leading men of the day; his election for the county of York in 1784; and his turn from the pleasures of company and amusement to an earnestness in religious pursuits, supply singular matter for reflection. And as the narrative proceeds through his exertions for the abolition of slavery, conduct on important political measures, and private affairs and correspondence with distinguished persons, we find an abundance of those elements which raise such a work from the class of private biography and anecdote to the eminence of high historical rank and the impressive inculcation of truth, and wisdom, and virtue.

In his earlier years, Mr. Wilberforce was of a very delicate constitution; and, indeed, he never enjoyed robust health. His slight and ethereal frame seemed the fit receptacle for a *spirituelle* mind, but ill formed for a prolonged course of even innocent dissipation, or for a continuance of unflinching energy in any great cause. His voice, like a flageolet, and himself the small instrument to give it utterance, it was hardly possible to fancy him possessed of those qualities and powers, which made the flageolet a trumpet, and him one of the most

influential men of the age in which he lived. Such, however, was the case; and, weak from infancy, of the slenderest bodily proportions, abated almost continually by delicate health, and impeded by indifferent eyesight, William Wilberforce, by an absolute devotedness to what he held to be just, humane, and right, lived beyond the age assigned as the limit of the human term, and died in the estimation of all men the ornament and benefactor of his kind.

We must now, however, leave generalities, and pick out some pieces of the mosaic before us, to shew our readers how various it is. We ought, perhaps, previously to remark, that the materials for the work are derived from MS. notes, by way of diary, of Mr. Wilberforce's, between 1783 and 1835; other memoranda on religious points, called a journal, from 1785 to 1818; the correspondence preserved; notes dictated late in life with a view to such a publication; and a few records of his conversation.* We commence our extracts with a piece of advice given to a friend on entering the House of Commons, which may still be pondered upon, though we are now more enlightened and reformed, without detriment to the individual or the public service.

"Attend (says Mr. W. to one worthy of his counsels, Sir T. Dyke Acland) — attend to business, and do not seek occasions of display; if you have a turn for speaking, the proper time will come. Let speaking take care of itself. I never go out of the way to speak, but make myself acquainted with the business, and then, if the debate passes [pass] my door, I step out and join it."

Respecting his own entrance into public life, we have the following picture and anecdote:—

"If he escaped the seductions of frivolity and fashion, he was in equal danger from the severer temptations of ambition. With talents of the highest order, and eloquence surpassed by few, he entered upon public life possessed of the best personal connexions, in his intimate friendship with Mr. Pitt. Disinterested, generous, lively, fond of society, by which he was equally beloved, and overflowing with affection towards his numerous friends, he was, indeed, in little danger from the low and mercenary spirit of worldly policy. But ambition has inducements for men of every temper; and how far he was then safe from its fascinations, may be learned from the conduct of his brother 'Independents.' They were a club of about forty members of the House of Commons, most of them opponents of the Coalition Ministry, whose principle of union was a resolution to take neither place, pension, nor peerage. Yet, in a few years, so far had the fierceness of their independence yielded to various temptations, that he and Mr. Banks alone, of all the party, retained their early simplicity of station. He himself was the only county member who was not raised to the peerage. He, too, would no doubt have been entangled in the toils of party, and have failed of those great triumphs he afterwards achieved, but for the entrance into his soul of higher principles. His later journals

* A sequel is announced in a separate form, and correspondence, &c. solicited by the authors.

abound in expressions of thankfulness that he did not at this time enter an official life, and waste his days in the trappings of greatness. Though he was practically thoughtless, ambition had not hardened his heart, or destroyed the simplicity of his tastes."

A trip to France with Mr. Pitt and Mr. Elliot, in 1783, is not only amusing, but politically intelligent. At Rheims, the party had no sufficient introduction, and were almost in-cognito.

"The Abbé de Lageard (now Mons. de Cherval) has furnished some recollections of this visit. 'One morning, when the intendant of police brought me his daily report, he informed me, there are three Englishmen here of very suspicious character. They are in a wretched lodging, they have no attendance, yet their courier says, that they are 'grands seigneurs,' and that one of them is son of the great Chatham; but it is impossible, they must be 'des intrigants.' I had been in England, and knew that the younger sons of your noble families are not always wealthy; and I said to Mons. du Chatel, who wished to visit them officially and investigate their character, 'Let us be in no hurry — it may be perhaps as they represent — I will inquire about them myself.' I went to their lodgings the same evening, and got their names from the courier; and, true enough, they were said to be Mr. W. Pitt, Mr. Wilberforce, and Mr. Elliot, all three members of the British parliament, and one of them lately a leading member of the government. The next morning I visited them, and, as I was at once satisfied by their appearance, I asked whether I could be of any use to them, and offered whatever the town of Rheims could afford for their amusement. Amongst other things, Mr. Pitt complained, 'Here we are in the middle of Champagne, and we cannot get any tolerable wine.' 'Dine with me to-morrow,' I replied, 'and you shall have the best wine the country can afford.' They came and dined with me; and, instead of moving directly after dinner, as we do in France, we sat talking for five or six hours.' The Abbé de Lageard, a man of family and fortune, was one of those whom the Revolution stripped of every thing but their faith and loyalty; and, when residing as an emigrant in England, he received from Mr. Wilberforce a willing and ample return of his present hospitality. Nothing could exceed his kindness to them: for a fortnight he was their constant attendant; he made them acquainted with the noblesse who resided in the neighbourhood of Rheims; he gave them permission to sport over the domain of the archbishop; and, upon his return, introduced them to a familiar footing at the palace. In their many conversations with the abbé, Mr. Pitt was the chief speaker. Although no master of the French vocabulary, his ear, quick for every sound but music, caught readily the intonations of the language; and he soon spoke it with considerable accuracy. He inquired carefully into the political institutions of the French; and the abbé has stored up his concluding sentence — 'Monsieur, vous n'avez point de liberté politique, mais pour la liberté civile, vous en avez plus que vous ne croyez.'"

As he expressed in the strongest terms his admiration for the system which prevailed at home, the abbé was led to ask him, since all human things were perishable, in what part the British constitution might be first expected to decay? Pitt, a parliamentary reformer, and speaking within three years of the time when the House of Commons had agreed to Mr. Dunning's motion, that the influence of the crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished, after musing for a moment, answered—'The part of our constitution which will first perish, is the prerogative of the king and the authority of the House of Peers.' 'I am greatly surprised,' said the abbé, 'that a country so moral as England can submit to be governed by a man so wanting in private character as Fox; it seems to show you to be less moral than you appear.' 'C'est que vous n'avez pas été sous la baguette du Magicien,' was Pitt's reply; 'but the remark,' he continued, 'is just.' Through the abbé's kindness, they mixed familiarly with different ranks, and saw much of the interior of French society.

'The position Mr. Pitt had occupied at home, attracted the observation of the French. An aged *maréchal* at Rheims sought in him a purchaser for her most costly wines, and disclaimed earnestly his assurances of poverty. 'Le ministre doit avoir, sans doute, cinque ou six mille livres sterling de rente.' And at Paris, whither they removed upon the 9th of September, it was hinted to him, through the intervention of Horace Walpole, that he would be an acceptable suitor for the daughter of the celebrated Neckar. Neckar is said to have offered to endow her with a fortune of 14,000*l.* per annum; but Mr. Pitt replied, 'I am already married to my country.' The story of their embarrassments at Rheims preceded them to Fontainebleau, where, by special invitation, they soon joined the gala festivities of the court, and Mr. Pitt was often rallied by the queen.'

At Nice, in 1784, we have an account of quackery, which is not without a parallel in our own day:—

'The natives (Mr. W. writes) were in general a wretched set—several of them, however, poor noblesse. There were nightly card parties at the different houses, and a great deal of gambling. The most respectable person amongst them was the Chevalier de Revel: he spoke English well, and was a great favourite of Frederic North's, who was then at Nice in a very nervous state, and giving entire credit to the animal magnetisers. The chief operator, M. Toalag, tried his skill on Milner and myself; but neither of us felt any thing, owing, perhaps, to our incredulity. North, on the contrary, would fall down upon entering a room in which they practised on him; and he even maintained to me, that they could affect the frame though in another room, or at a distance, and you were ignorant of their proceedings.'

It was on his return from this expedition, and a subsequent one in 1785, in company with Mr. Milner, afterwards dean of Carlisle, that his mind reverted to religious impressions, and of a more temperate character than those of his boyhood.

Mr. W. took up casually a little volume (Doddridge's 'Rise and Progress of Religion'), which Mr. Unwin, Cowper's correspondent, had given to the mother of one amongst his fellow-travellers; and, casting his eye over it hastily, asked Milner what was its character. 'It is one of the best books ever written,' was his answer; 'let us take it with us and read

it on our journey.' He easily consented, and they read it carefully together, with thus much effect, that he determined at some future season to examine the Scriptures for himself, and see if things were stated there in the same manner. In this journey he was alone with Milner.'

It is not possible for us to enter upon this momentous topic; but we earnestly recommend this portion of the work (from page 76 nearly throughout the whole of the first volume) to the attention it so truly merits; and pass on to a letter, which affords a fair idea of the writer's epistolary talent.

"To Lord Muncaster.

Berne, 14th Aug. 1785.

"Dear Muncaster,—That a man who has been for the last week environed by eternal snows, and hemmed in by the Shreckhorn, and the Wetterhorn, and the Jungfrau, should stoop to take notice of a grovelling being, who crawls along the level surface of the county of Cumberland, is an instance of genuine steadiness and equal serenity of temper, which will not pass unobserved and unadmired before so accurate an observer as yourself. Yet I dare say you think yourself most magnificent, with your Hardknot and Wrynose, and discover in your Lilliput, risings and fallings invisible to the grosser organs of the inhabitant of Brobdignag.—If you read on this far, I am sure your patience will hold out no longer, and my letter goes into the fire, which in your cold part of the world you will certainly be sitting over when my packet arrives, about the end of the month. You then go to Lady Muncaster, and with a glance on your sevenfold shield, on which the setting sun is gleaming with a brilliancy which would throw a stoic into raptures, you lament over me as a poor, infatuated, perverted renegade, 'false to my gods, my country, and my father.' The greatest punishment your old regard will suffer you to inflict on me, will be a perpetual condemnation to breathe the air of the House of Commons, and to have no other ideas of a country prospect, or a country life, than can be collected from a stare from Richmond hill, or a dinner at the Star and Garter. No, Muncaster, I am no renegade. True to my first love, a long and intimate acquaintance has made me find out so many excellencies and perfections, that my affections are not to be changed, though in the course of my travels I see a fairer face, or a more exquisite symmetry,

'Tis the dear, the blishest effect of Celia altogether.'

If, therefore, you should hear of my taking a country house in one of the Swiss cantons, don't take it for granted that I have forgot the land of promise. Allow now and then a transient infidelity: my constancy shall be unshaken to my true Dulcinea. 'These are my visits, but she is my home.' But, to drop all metaphor, I have never been in any other part of the world, for which I could quit a residence in England with so little regret: God grant that the public and private state of our own country may never reduce it to such a situation as to give this the preference in my esteem. At present I have the same unalterable affection for Old England, founded as I think in reason, or as foreigners would tell me, in prejudice; but I feel sometimes infected with a little of your own anxiety; I fancy I see storms arising, which already 'no bigger than a man's hand,' will by and by overspread and blacken the whole face of heaven. It is not the confusion of parties, and their quarrelling and battling in the House of Commons, which makes me despair of the republic (if I knew a word half

way between 'apprehend for,' and 'despair,' that would best express my meaning), but it is the universal corruption and profligacy of the times, which taking its rise amongst the rich and luxurious, has now extended its baneful influence and spread its destructive poison through the whole body of the people. When the mass of blood is corrupt, there is no remedy but amputation. I beg my best remembrances to Lady Muncaster, and my little friends, Penny and Gam. Tell the latter, if he will meet me at Spa, I will turn him into a pancake as often as he will.—Believe me to be, ever yours most affectionately,

"W. WILBERFORCE."

At this period, the travellers met the famous Lavater, of whom there is a strange story.

"I had been chosen treasurer," said Lavater, 'of a certain charitable institution, and had received the funds subscribed for its conduct, when a friend came in great distress, and begged me to advance him a sum of money to save him from bankruptcy. 'You should have it at once, but I have no such sum.' 'You have the charity fund in your power; lend me what I need from that: long before the day comes on which you must pay it over, I shall be able to replace it, and you will save me and mine from ruin.' At last I reluctantly consented. His hopes, as I had foreseen, were disappointed; he could not repay me; and on the morrow I must give in my accounts. In an agony of feelings, I prayed earnestly that some way of escaping from my difficulties might yet present itself, that I might be saved from disgracing religion by such an apparent dishonesty. I rose from my knees, and in the nervous restlessness of a harassed mind, began to pull open every drawer I had, and ransack its contents. Why I did it, I know not, but whilst I was thus engaged, my eye caught a small paper parcel, to the appearance of which I was a stranger. I opened it, I took it up, and found that it contained money: I tore it open, and found in it the sum I needed to settle my accounts. But how it came there, or where it came from, I could never learn.' 'Child spoke for whom he had prayed on christening. An excellent man in his whole conduct—kissed us with extreme affection, and said, if he received any thing we should too. He and many others ardently look for the coming of some 'Elu,' who is to impart to them a large measure of grace. He will know the 'Elu' the moment he sets eyes on him.'"

In 1787, Mr. Wilberforce took up the *magnum opus* of his life—the abolition of the slave trade; and it is introduced by a statement of much interest. Speaking of Mr. Clarkson's 'History of Abolition,' the authors say:—

"Of this book it is necessary to declare at once, and with a very painful distinctness, that it conveys an entirely erroneous idea of the abolition struggle. Without imputing to Mr. Clarkson any intentional unfairness, it may safely be affirmed that his exaggerated estimate of his own services has led him unawares into numberless mistatements. Particular instances might be easily enumerated, but the writers are most anxious to avoid any thing resembling controversy on this subject. Contenting themselves, therefore, with this declaration, they will henceforth simply tell their own story, without pointing out its contradictions of Mr. Clarkson's 'History.' This is no new charge.

* * * Milner subsequently endeavoured to reclaim Lavater from his mystical notions, by a Latin letter, in the composition of which he took vast pains. 'I am a poor man,' Lavater briefly replied, 'and the postage of long letters is inconvenient to me.' Con. Mem. In other quarters, however, Lavater's correspondence was considerable. Vide Goethe, *Dictung und Wahrheit*."

An able writer, in a contemporary review (*Christian Observer*, No. 169), after expressing an earnest desire for a competent history of the abolition, describes Mr. Clarkson's work as by no means supplying this want; but as 'remarkable chiefly for the earnest warmth of heart which it manifests, and for the strange redundancies, and still stranger omissions, and, above all, the extravagant egotism with which it abounds.' Mr. Wilberforce himself looked into the book, and saw enough to induce him to refuse to read, lest he should be compelled to remark upon it. With a ready forgetfulness of himself, which they who knew him will understand at once, he told Mr. Clarkson, when obliged to give his opinion, that he was entirely satisfied with what was said about himself, but that, undoubtedly, justice had not been done to Mr. Stephen. In truth, whilst the two volumes are swelled by a detail of the minutiae of the early business, with which their author was personally conversant, a few pages hurry over the events of eleven important years, from 1794, when Mr. Clarkson left, to 1805, when he resumed his post. The writers would gladly have omitted all notice of this subject. But the interests of truth, and the character of the great leader in the abolition struggle, require this avowal. With the same reluctance, and for the same reasons, they insert, without any comment, certain letters, which they would gladly have suppressed, but which they cannot conceive themselves warranted to omit, inasmuch as they exhibit Mr. Wilberforce and Mr. Clarkson in relations very different from any thing which the 'History of Abolition' would suggest."

We do not go into the inquiry with whom this great reform really originated. It seems to have been a subject of speculation to Mr. Wilberforce when at school; and Lady Middleton, Mr. Ramsay, and others, were early champions in the benevolent field. The subject occupies more than half the two volumes.

For the present it will better suit our page and purpose to select a few miscellaneous matters of general curiosity or interest.

1797. *Royal Academy Dinner*.—"To Royal Academy dinner—sat near Lord Spencer, Wyndham, &c.—too worldly-minded—catches and glees—they importunate for Rule Britannia—I doubt if I had much business at such a place. What a painted shadow! It is not right for me entirely to abstract myself from the world; yet what a gay dream was this!"

Popularity.—"Good nature and ease, when not alloyed by gross vice, seem the popular requisites; every body who has them, is styled 'the best man in the world.'"

1796. *Erskine*.—"Heard Miss Seward repeat and read Cornaro, Translations from Horace. Called upon her several times—Erskine much with her—his free conversation with Milner about religion. He tells me he has had sixty-six retainers off his circuit, at three hundred guineas each. Here is Miss D.—Vultus nimium lubricus, miseri quibus, &c. Will she turn out well?—but eighteen, poor lass! Miss Seward went on Friday. Erskine, Milner, and I, too much with her—flattering her, &c. I called once to get serious talk, but in vain. She commended the preacher at the rooms. I said I liked sermons better which made people uneasy."

Franklin.—"Franklin signed the peace of Paris in his old spotted velvet coat (it being the time of a court mourning, which rendered it more particular). 'What,' said my friend the negotiator, 'is the meaning of that harlequin coat?' It is that in which he was abused by

Wedderburne. He shewed much rancour and personal enmity to this country—would not grant the common passports for trade, which, however easily got from Jay or Adams."

1797. *Burke*.—(Last interview at the time of the mutiny). "Burke was lying on a sofa much emaciated; and Wyndham, Laurence, and some other friends, were round him. The attention shewn to Burke by all that party was just like the treatment of Ahithophel of old. 'It was as if one went to inquire of the oracle of the Lord.' I reported to them the account I had received, and Burke being satisfied of its authority, we held a consultation on the proper course for government to follow. Wyndham set off for London the same night with the result of our deliberations."

Odd Mode of Expression.—"My marriage, and the publication of my book, are the great events of the past year. In both I see much to humble me, and to fill my mouth with praises."

Opinions of Latitudinarianism Education.—"The boasted liberality on which they value themselves in the conduct of the Bristol schools, is that relaxing toleration which enables them to combine Quakers and Presbyterians, 'the sprinkled and the dipped,' by insisting on no peculiar form of worship or religious instruction; so that I fear in this accommodating and comprehensive plan, Christianity slips through their fingers. I hope and believe they inculcate industry, but I never went to see them myself, because I think they are carried on in a way I could not commend, and which it might not be right to censure. The manager is a man who will torment you to death, if you give him the *entrée*. He is as vain as Erskine in another way; absurd and injudicious, and as fond of fame as Alexander. With all this, he is sober, temperate, laborious, and charitable; but one with whom I never, and you never, could coalesce with views and motives so dissimilar."

The offer of a peerage (1825) presents short remarks not inapplicable when a numerous new creation of peers is about to take place.

"In the course of this autumn, an arrangement was suggested to him by the friendly zeal of Sir John Sinclair, which would have removed him to the calmer atmosphere of the Upper House. 'To your friendly suggestion,' was his remarkable reply, 'respecting changing the field of my parliamentary labours, I must say a word or two, premising that I do not intend to continue in public life longer than the present parliament. I will not deny that there have been periods in my life, when on worldly principles the attainment of a permanent, easy, and quiet seat in the legislature, would have been a pretty strong temptation to me. But, I thank God, I was strengthened against yielding to it. For (understand me rightly) as I had done nothing to make it naturally come to me, I must have endeavoured to go to it; and this would have been carving for myself, if I may use the expression, much more than a Christian ought to do.'"

We cannot conclude without quoting the paragraph describing this good man's death.

"The next morning his amendment seemed to continue. To an old servant, who drew him out in a wheel-chair, he talked with more than usual animation; and the fervency with which he offered up the family prayer was particularly noticed. But, in the evening, his weakness returned in a most distressing manner; and the next day he experienced a succession of fainting fits, to which he had been for two years subject, which were followed by much suffering, and

which for a time suspended his powers of recollection. His physician pronounced, that if he survived this attack, it would be to suffer much pain, and probably, also, with an impaired understanding. During an interval, in the evening of Sunday, 'I am in a very distressed state,' he said, alluding apparently to his bodily condition. 'Yes,' it was answered, 'but you have your feet on the Rock.' 'I do not venture,' he replied, 'to speak so positively; but I hope I have.' And, after this expression of his humble trust, with but one groan, he entered into that world where pain and doubt are for ever at an end. He died at three o'clock in the morning of Monday, July 29th, aged 73 years and 11 months."

Hill and Valley; or, Hours in England and Wales. By Catherine Sinclair, authoress of "Modern Accomplishments," &c. &c. 12mo. pp. 454. Edinburgh, 1838. Whyte and Co.; London, Longman and Co., Hamilton and Co., Duncan, Simpkin and Co., Whittaker and Co.; Dublin, Curry, jun., and Co.; Glasgow, Collins.

MISS CATHERINE SINCLAIR, daughter of the late distinguished baronet, Sir John, and sister of the present estimable member of the House of Commons, Sir George Sinclair, as well as of the Rev. John, the biographer of his father, inherits a fair share of the ability and talent which belong to her family. Her former productions have met with deserved success; and convey lessons of good sense in the most agreeable manner. With a solidity of understanding, they generally combine an acuteness of observation and a liveliness of illustration, drawn from much various reading, which render them as pleasant as they are instructive; and we take this opportunity of cordially recommending them to the public, and particularly to domestic circles.

The present work is simply a tour in Wales, and afterwards in some parts of England, wherein the author describes the places she has visited in a series of familiar letters, written with great cleverness and taste. They are so descriptive both of scenery and people, that, though *Hill and Valley* is a quaint enough title, we should have thought Wales and the Welsh more appropriate. But, not to discuss so unimportant a point, we shall, before travelling towards Wales from Edinburgh, give our tourist's "receipt to make a tour."

"Take your carriage—stuff it well—add four horses, or, if not to be had, a pair may do. Select two or three agreeable friends—sit them up, and put them all into a good humour. Throw in a light wardrobe, a large sketch-book, and a heavy purse. Keep your purse open at both ends—oil your wheels—put them in rapid motion; and add as many accidents and adventures as can be got. Boil up the whole with plenty of enthusiasm—pour it out to cool in three large volumes—let the scum run off till it is reduced to one—alt it up into chapters, and then put it into the press.—*Improved Family Receipt-Book*, Vol. VIIth, Fifty-ninth Edition."

This little piece of humour is a sort of key to one quality which pervades the volume, viz. a quality of vivacity, which displays itself in a fund of apt and amusing anecdote; and from which we shall draw our specimens, though the author says,—

"British tourists are very generally inclined to wander from pole to pole, rather than from Land's End to John O'Groat's; so that, while Snowdon and Cader Idris remain a perfect *terra incognita* to Englishmen, we read volumes every day describing

Niagara's foaming fall;
China's everlasting wall;
Hoary Hecla's wat'ry spires;
Raging Etna's rolling fires."

As we happen to think the Welsh mountains not quite so much *terra incognita* as Miss

Sinclair does, but, on the contrary, that they have been often and minutely described; we shall, as we have stated, content ourselves with making a short cento from the playful remarks and anecdotes with which she has enlivened her letters.

Encouragements.—"Proceeding onwards, near Milnthorpe we observed a wide arm of the sea, which is fordable at low water, and might probably be embanked by some enterprising speculator, like Mr. Malcolm in Argyllshire, who redeemed 3000 acres at one place from the ocean. The Humane Society should give medals to enterprising persons who recover drowned lands from the sea. Whole estates are gained in that way now, and it would be no bad speculation to take an improvable lease of this bay immediately."

The Meeting of the Lands.—"The north of England and the south of Scotland meet in so flat, bare, and ugly a scene, that tourists, travelling through those counties for the first time, must imagine they have taken a final leave of all beauty: but the two kingdoms shew their worst faces to each other; and, if all the buried forests here could be reproduced, how greatly the scene might be altered—for in this part of England, as well as in the Highlands, large roots and trunks of trees are constantly dug up among the morasses, shewing noble remains of better times."

Liverpool.—"Mr. Huskisson was the first person buried in this cemetery, by which his friends intended to do him honour; as Englishmen view this subject very differently from Highlanders, who have a superstition, which I never could trace to its origin, that Satan gets possession of the first corpse laid in a new cemetery! The time when I heard of this was in 1830, at Blair; on which occasion the inn-keeper happened to mention that a new burying-ground had been prepared during some years without ever coming into use, on account of no neighbouring family liking to take the precedence. 'We are just waiting,' added the worthy landlady, looking hard at me, 'to see if, by good chance, some stranger dies in the place, who could be laid there at once.' After that, I very nearly resolved to sleep without a pillow at Blair, in case of being buried; and it is remarkable that an English sportsman about that time fairly died there; when, after his interment in the new cemetery, it was adopted into use. The Scotch have been always considered particularly provident about funerals; but a story, which amused me once, affords particularly strong evidence of this propensity. A poor woman, in the village of —, had lent her neighbour the carpenter some money; but, finding him quite unable to repay her, she obligingly consented to take the value of his debt in coffins for herself and all her children. They were, accordingly, each measured and provided without delay; but she was heard often afterwards to complain that the children had quite out-grown theirs."

Smoking.—"Travellers in America, Germany, and other foreign countries, make so perpetual an outcry in their pages about the horrors of tobacco, that you would imagine pipes utterly unknown at home; but half the people we passed to-day were flagrant smokers, and, as that seems generally a preface to drinking, it is deplorable that, from the humble pipe to the aristocratic cigar, our whole island will soon be smoked like a Westphalia ham. So great a waste of health and money among the poorer classes should be discouraged, both by precept and example, or the custom will soon be universally prevalent. In Holland, at pub-

lic dinners, if any gentleman be particularly wanted, the waiter enters with a pair of bellows, and blows in the face of each member, to find the one required. I wish servants occasionally made the same mistake as Sir Walter Raleigh's, who became terrified the first time he saw columns of smoke issuing from his master's mouth, and threw a deluge of cold water on his head 'to extinguish him.'"

Warning.—"When Mr. Vernon, in Yorkshire, wished to intimidate all intruders, he put up a notice, the incomprehensible nature of which caused a universal panic among the country people: 'Persons caught strolling in these pleasure-grounds shall be spifficated.'"

The Dead.—"In South Wales, a gravestone is shewn of rather a formidable character: if any one reads its inscription to the end, he dies within a month. But, no such penalty being threatened here, we examined several, which are all painted black, as if they really sympathised with surviving mourners. An old man, 'spectacles on nose,' was intently occupied here in chiselling an ancient tomb, and might have sat for the picture of Old Mortality. In many cases, the only memorial which appeared upon the grave consisted of a few flowers. When the Welsh people plant these, they call it 'dressing the dead;' and every Saturday evening the survivors of a family may be observed busy in cultivating such little tributes of affection, that the congregation, passing to church upon Sunday, may perceive how carefully and affectionately the absent friend has been remembered;—'E'en from the grave the voice of nature cries.' There seems to be more life and reality in the grief thus frequently commemorated, than in the sorrow represented by cold, unmovable marble figures, weeping unvisited and alone. Among the higher ranks there is now, perhaps, rather too much resignation for the loss of friends. It has, in many cases, degenerated into indifference; and, even among Christians, the eye of suspicion might often rest upon those who express themselves ready to rejoice on such mournful occasions."

Presents and Rewards.—"Some very skillful farmer having sent to his landlord a gigantic turnip, Lord —, in an ecstasy of admiration, presented his tenant with a beautiful hunter; upon which another successful agriculturist, hearing of this extraordinary munificence, transmitted to his lordship an overgrown ox of proportionable dimensions; but the nobleman, beginning now to perceive that such an interchange of civilities might prove expensive, sent the second donor a gift of the turnip, saying, that having cost him more than the value of an ox, he hoped it might be considered an equivalent."

Bangor.—"Conveyances belonging to Mrs. Bicknell, of various hues and dimensions, seem almost as numerous here as at the house of Mr. —, the rich and ostentatious proprietor who used to tell his guests, when requested to lend a carriage, 'that they might have one of any colour they preferred,' and who was heard calling once to his servant, 'Bring some more phaetons.'"

Duchesse d'Angoulême in Edinburgh.—"On account of her reduced establishment, she thought it requisite that a footman, who had recently left off his livery, should resume it. The man expressed himself so vehemently against this encroachment on his prerogatives, that she gave him his *congé*; and then, dismissing the subject from her thoughts, began reflecting on past political events, till drowned in tears. At this moment, her servant, having

occasion to replenish the fire, entered her room, and, imagining her distress to be caused entirely by his own departure, he suddenly exclaimed, '*Ne pleurez plus, Madame! J'y renonce! Je porterai la livrée.*'"

Llanberis.—"The celebrated lakes of Llanberis rather disappointed us; they exhibit merely a few sheets of water, not more than three miles long, considerably removed from Snowdon, with scarcely a tree reflected in their waters, which seem clear and shallow. Not a boat was visible, and few traces of animal life or human society; but, probably, good fishing abounds here, as a celebrated angler observed of the Welsh lakes, that they contain two-thirds water and one-third fish. Formerly, a large shallow lake, like one of these, ornamented the grounds of the late eccentric Lord —, who amused himself often with rowing a party of guests into the centre, when a large bung was secretly drawn out, which caused an alarming leak in the boat. His lordship's visitors underwent all the agonies of shipwreck, and, at last, the vessel merely grounded in a few feet deep of water, whence the terrified victims were speedily rescued, drenched, though not drowned, and probably admiring greatly the dry humour of their noble host."

Curious Custom.—"A strange popish custom prevailed in Monmouthshire and other western counties till very recently. Many funerals were attended by a professed 'sin-eater,' hired to take upon him the guilt of the deceased. By swallowing bread and beer, with a suitable ceremony before the corpse, he was supposed to free it from every penalty for past offences, appropriating the punishment to himself. Men who undertook so daring an imposture must all have been infidels, willing, apparently, like Esau, to sell their birthright for a mess of pottage."

Stories.—"An old lady, not understanding the convenient system of boarding *en pension* abroad, lately read a letter from her son, then travelling on the Continent, and exclaimed, with a look of great delight, 'I can't tell what Tom has done to deserve it, but he is now living on a pension at Naples; probably the king has taken a fancy to him,—he is a very fine lad!' Lady C — used to say, that in travelling she 'strewn the road with gold!' a custom which must have made her very popular, as ordinary personages are satisfied with grinding two shillings a mile under their carriage-wheels; and she would never have gained the prize which old Mr. — used annually to bestow on one of his sons, during the holidays, when they were all sent off in different directions with a certain allowance, and whoever travelled furthest, and staid longest away from home, on the sum specified, received the highest reward. An amusing story is told of a traveller, who encountered a remarkably scanty dinner at Cheltenham, for which he was charged enormously, when he threatened that the landlord should have cause to remember this extortion as long as he lived. Accordingly, wherever the gentleman wandered over the habitable globe, he invariably disguised his hand-writing, and directed a double letter to the hotel. The contents were always one single sentence, 'I shall never forget that excellent dinner you gave me on the 28th of August.' The unfortunate landlord was at last nearly ruined, and even from China this pertinacious correspondent contrived to forward his usual epistle."

With this we conclude, and have only to add, that a travelling companion, possessed of more good feeling and pleasant qualifications than Miss Catherine Sinclair, could hardly be found for a tour in Wales over Hill and Valley.

Lights and Shadows of Irish Life. By Mrs. S. C. Hall, author of the "Buccaneer," &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1838. Colburn.

WE, and the reading world in general, are greatly indebted to Mrs. Hall for these lively and clever tales of Irish life, some of which have before been published. Some, at least the first story and a part of the second, are original: all possess a portion of the life and spirit almost peculiar to Mrs. Hall's truly characteristic sketches. The first tale in these volumes has, previously to publication, been successfully dramatised at the Adelphi Theatre. We can only assure our readers, it is even more interesting in its present form.

In some parts of the volumes before us, Mrs. Hall has, perhaps, given a shade more of sadness and thought to several of the tales—in our opinion, an additional beauty; though we are loth to believe in the existence of so much misery as she occasionally paints too faithfully, we fear, to be imaginary. We can scarcely select a passage to quote, without interfering with the plots, which we always most religiously eschew. We will, however, run the risk:—

"Ulick O'Sullivan, when he had fitted the flint, proceeded to inspect the contents of a basket, that was filled with cordage, snares, large rounds of cork, and many nondescript things, which, however, had their uses; and all the time he maintained a surly silence, although our old acquaintance, the Griffin, sat opposite to him, smoking her pipe, and winking her eye at every puff that rose upwards. There was another, and far more interesting object, leaning against a pile of wood, which, most probably, had been dragged there to provide firing for those who resorted to the place; a small, slight girl, whose long, bright, auburn hair, resembling the coolan* of Ulick, told that she was an O'Sullivan of the same family; and the expression of her energetic features, which were seldom at rest, told another tale—that her mind was wild and wavering: her hair was parted on her low, white forehead, and descended over her shoulders and below her waist in heavy tresses; a blue shawl was crossed over her bosom, and tied behind; and her small feet and ankles were covered with light blue stockings, protected by the *sabot*-looking shoes, which did not prevent her running with the grace and swiftness of a wild roe. Her employment, for she was never idle, was spinning coarse tow from a distaff; the movement of her arms, bare almost to the shoulder, her attitude, and the lightness of her figure, had much that was picturesque, if not classic, in its appearance. The three singular beings, associated together in the vaults of Blarney Castle, had remained a long time silent,—the Griffin meditating, as usual, on gain and mischief; Ulick's countenance betraying that many contending feelings agitated his mind; while Aileen's silent smiles and muttered words at last broke into song. Her voice was low and sweet, and ever and anon it would rise into a strain of fervour, which always speaks to the heart.

"Poor Milly was not likely again to require friends; whatever her husband's crimes might have been—and they were those, unhappily so common, of Whiteboyism—she had no participation in aught but his love; and, instead of wanting, she hardly knew what to do with the treasures that were heaped upon her. When we were leaving Wexford, the 'story-teller' made her way through the usual crowd of beggars, and, on the plea of old acquaintanceship, pressed closely to my side.

* Long hair.

'He's safe off, a *bouchla*—out o' the harbour, and all; and she's got a scratch of a pen from him to say so! And it's to my thinkin' she'll be soon after him—and why not? But ye'll see herself presently at the ould tree, and—' Stand back,' she said, addressing the crowd who pressed upon us, 'stand back, and let me spake to the gentlewoman. It isn't charity I'm askin', so ye needn't keep starin', chokin' with the envy, like a pack o' seagulls over a cockle-bed. And what I was saying is, that, upon my soul, if ye come fifty times to Wexford (as pray God ye may), I'll never tell ye another lie! troth I won't; and there's not many as good a story-teller as myself would say that same.' I perfectly agreed with her, and we proceeded on our journey until we arrived at the old tree, beneath whose shadow stood poor Milly; while, somewhat further on, the little shoeless, stockingless scout was, as he expressed it, 'playing at cuttin' throats' with a still younger reprobate, a nondescript as to age or sex. Milly was not a person of many words: true sorrow is not eloquent, except in its silence. I thought I had never seen a picture of more calm and placid beauty, but it was rather the beauty of a statue than of a living woman. Her hair was shaded back, and the thin snowy throat appeared hardly sufficient to sustain the small head upon its slender pedestal. Her cloak was still drawn up in front over her child, and, though the infant retained the anxious expression attendant upon starvation, it crowded at the motion of its own fingers, and was evidently gaining strength. She came close to the window of the carriage, and said, 'Will I never see ye at all again? Are ye going away entirely?' Her lip faltered, and her eyes were swimming in tears. 'Going, Milly; but, perhaps, not for ever.' 'For ever for me, for ever for me! for I shall be gone far, far, before ye come back; but God in heaven, who hears my prayer, will bless you wherever you go! May none belonging to you ever know sin or shame! But, lady dear, he wasn't as bad as people think; O no! indeed he wasn't. God bless you more and more! but don't think hard of him. 'Twas the drink, and the bad company; but 'twasn't himself. And sure what'll ail him now, when he has taken an oath against the drink, and is out of the way of temptation, to be as good as he is kind, and, though I say it, handsome!' How much better I love women than men! how disinterested and self-denying are my own dear sex! The worthless rapparee, who deserved transportation at the very least, was so idolised by that pure and innocent creature, that the entire desire of her heart was, not that I should grant her any further relief, but that I should think well of her good-for-nothing husband. 'Twas the drink and the bad company, but 'twasn't himself!' There was a distinction! none but a loving woman could have ever made such."

We dismiss these pleasant volumes with our cordial recommendation.

Aëronautica; or, Sketches illustrative of the Theory and Practice of Aerostation: comprising an enlarged Account of the late Aerial Expedition to Germany. By Monck Mason, Esq. 8vo. pp. 355. London, 1838. Westley.

NOTWITHSTANDING the gift has been taken off the extraordinary voyage here described more at large, by the publication of its leading features in the periodical press, we yet find the detailed account very curious and very interesting. Mr. Mason considers the whole

subject of aerostation, and brings forward the improvements made in it by his companion, Mr. Green; so that his work presents the most complete view of the science that has ever been produced, besides furnishing many new particulars of the remarkable expedition from London to Nassau. His style is rather ornate; and there is, perhaps, an inclination to be metaphysical as well as philosophical in some of his disquisitions; but, altogether, his volume is one which cannot be read without imparting much information, whilst it gratifies the mind by a number of amusing and striking statements.

Of Mr. Green's improvements, the most important is that of the inflation of the balloon with coal gas instead of hydrogen; for we cannot say that the author has convinced us of the practicability of guiding it in any direction the aeronaut may desire. Of the former we are told:—

"By the adoption of the means which such a discovery now places within the power of the aeronaut, the laborious exertions of two and three days have become the affair of as many hours; and that which formerly could not have been accomplished under a cost of two or three hundred pounds, reduced to a scale of expenditure so low as not even to merit his consideration—unless when circumstances, and the absence of competition, may have left him at the merciless discretion of some unreasonable association. In illustration of the truth of this fact, I need only mention, that out of above two hundred ascents which Mr. Green has hitherto executed upon the same principles, throughout almost all parts of the United Kingdom, a large portion have been effected without any expense of inflation whatever; the various companies having gratuitously offered him the necessary supply of gas. Lest this should appear to some extravagant or impossible, I beg to observe, that, in a country where coal abounds, as with us, the process of distillation, by means of which the gas is procured, so far from deteriorating the value of the material employed, augments it so much that the residue (the coke) is capable of producing by its sale, a return that covers both the original purchase of the coals and the wages of the men engaged in the operation. It is, therefore, the mere wear and tear of the machinery alone, and the interest of the money required to erect it, that can be readily said to constitute the expense of this once so expensive an undertaking. Independent, however, of these advantages accruing from the adoption of coal gas in preference to hydrogen for the purposes of inflation, there are others of great importance, one of which especially merits notice. I allude to the superior facility with which the former is retained in the balloon, owing both, perhaps, to the greater subtilty of the particles of hydrogen, and the stronger affinity which they exhibit for those of the surrounding atmosphere. In a balloon sufficiently impervious to retain its contents of coal gas, unaltered in quality or amount for the space of six months, an equal quantity of hydrogen could not be maintained in equal purity for more than an equal number of weeks. It will be unnecessary to dilate upon the inestimable advantages which this property of coal gas presents to aerostation; especially when we regard the future prospects of the art, its probable employment in the performance of voyages of long duration, and the difficulty, nay, impossibility, in most instances, of procuring or maintaining a supply of this perishable commodity."

On the other point, that of directing the

balloon *ad libitum*, it is to be effected by frequent ascents and descents, so as to avail the voyagers of different currents of air; and further,—“As soon as the balloon has sufficiently quitted the earth, and circumstances appear to render it advisable, a rope, varying in length from a thousand feet upwards, according to the exigencies of the case, and of a mass proportioned to the weight against which it is intended to provide, is lowered from the car by means of a windlass, and passing through a pulley attached to the hoop above, is thus allowed to remain freely suspended in the air. As soon as any alteration takes place, whereby her specific gravity is increased, and the balloon in consequence begins to descend, the lower extremity of this rope becomes gradually deposited on the ground, and, acting in this case like the discharge of so much ballast, keeps constantly abstracting from her weight below, in the direct proportion to the augmentation which it is receiving above, until the latter having reached its maximum, and an adequate compensation having been effected by means of the former, her further descent is eventually checked, and she either continues to advance upon the level to which these vicarious alternations have reduced her, or, rising again under the influence of the first change that occurs, sufficient to produce such a tendency, and reversing in her ascent all the proceedings that attended her depression, she gradually becomes charged with all her former weight, and ultimately quits the earth in the same condition, with regard to her resources in gas and ballast, as she was ere circumstances had interfered to disturb the equilibrium of her previous course.”

To the value of this guider rope Mr. Mason attaches the utmost consequence; and speaks of its efficacy in terms so glowing as to excite a smile, if not a laugh.

“Under the sway of such an instrument, the ocean, no longer the dreaded enemy of the aerial voyager, becomes at once his greatest friend; and, instead of opposing his progress, offers him advantages more certain and efficacious than even the earth itself, with all its presumed security, is calculated to contribute. Freed from the apprehensions of a forced determination to his career, he now regards in the sea but a vast plain ready to relieve him from impediments which might otherwise embarrass him in his course; in the ocean he beholds but a wider field for the exercise of those means which art has bestowed upon him, to enable him to triumph over the difficulties of nature. In his view, the Atlantic is no more than a simple canal; three days might suffice to effect its passage. The very circumference of the globe is not beyond the scope of his expectations: in fifteen days and fifteen nights, transported by the trade winds, he does not despair to accomplish, in his progress, the great circle of the earth itself. Who now can fix a limit to his career?”

Who indeed? Where are the sun, the moon, and the seven stars? where Sirius, Aldebaran, Charles's Wain, and Herschel's nebula? Likely to become *Green spots*, familiar with earthly Mason-ry, and having regular intercourse with Holland! The Atlantic a simple canal, the great globe a toy-ball, the mundane atmosphere a railroad, and the supreme firmament, with all its host of worlds, only a pleasant excursion, with so many changes and relays! But as yet we have done nothing beyond the Nassau trip, and to that we turn. Well does Mr. M. observe,—

“For the benefit of such lovers of good cheer as may in future be tempted to prove the

pleasures of aerostation, it may be as well to observe that it is not all liquors that can be conveniently employed upon such occasions. Champagne, for instance, and bottled porter, cider, soda-water, and all those which are generally termed “up in bottle,” however anomalous it may appear, are by no means adapted for aerial excursions; their natural tendency to *flying* being so much accelerated by the diminished pressure, which is the consequence of their elevation, that they invariably *fly off* altogether, almost as soon as they have quitted the ground.”

Heavy wet, we should opine, would be the liquor in vogue, and especially where such circumstances as the following were likely to occur.

“About ten minutes past five (says our author, in describing their flight), one of those casual aberrations occurred to which we have already alluded, when, the balloon rising rapidly, we became suddenly transported to an elevation of above twelve thousand feet. This was the highest point we attained throughout the whole voyage, and the effect was, in truth, equally pre-eminent with the occasion by which it was produced. If we only reflect that our position at this altitude was such as to have enabled us to behold objects at a distance of above one hundred and fifty miles on every side of us, had those objects been sufficiently great or sufficiently striking to fix the attention, some faint idea may be had of the immensity of prospect which at that moment became subjected to our view. We shall then be seen occupying the centre of a circle, whose diameter, extending to above three hundred miles in length, afforded us an horizon, the circumference of which, exceeding an equal number of leagues, comprised within its circuit an expanse of visible surface little short of seventy-one thousand square miles. In the enjoyment of this stupendous landscape, we continued for above an hour, occasionally descending a few hundred feet, and again rising to resume our station upon our former level. In one of these latter movements, which took place at about a quarter past six, the balloon, having nearly recovered its highest elevation, suddenly brought us in full view of the sun; and, for the first time, gladdened us with the assurance of a speedy return of day.

“This splendid spectacle, however, we were not long destined to enjoy; a rapid descent, which shortly after ensued, for a while concealing it from our view, and once more consigning us to the shades of night, which still continued to reign unbroken throughout the lower region of the air. Again we rose within the reach of this delightful prospect; and again did we lose sight of it amid the vapours and obscurity that accompanied our descent; nor was it till we had three times made the sun rise, and twice beheld it set, that we could fairly consider it established above the horizon, and daylight complete upon the plane of the earth beneath us.”

This must have been sublime; and, after enjoying it, we are not surprised that the aeronauts determined on returning to the earth. But, we are told, “for a long time past, the appearance of the country, so unlike any with which we were acquainted, had led us to entertain serious doubts as to whether we had not already passed the limits of that part of Europe where we might expect to find the accommodation and conveniences which our own comfort, and the safety of the balloon, imperatively demanded. This opinion, the large tracts of snow over which we had passed, during

the latter part of the night, bearing a strong resemblance to all we had hitherto pictured to ourselves of the boundless plains of Poland, or the barren and inhospitable steppes of Russia, considerably tended to confirm;” and, as the region we were immediately approaching seemed to offer advantages which, under these circumstances, we could not always hope to command, we resolved not to lose the occasion it so opportunely appeared to have afforded us.”

“An unexpected obstacle to this operation here again presented itself: the sand which forms the ballast, frozen during the night into a solid block of stone, refused to quit the bag in the proportion required, and no time remained to search for one more suited to the occasion. Not a moment was, in fact, to be lost; the valley was passed, and the branches of the trees that clothed the opposing precipice were already within a few feet of the balloon; the grapnel continued to drag, and no chance appeared of arresting her progress onward. In this emergency one alternative alone remained; and the sack itself, with all its contents, to the amount of fifty-six pounds in weight, were at once consigned to the earth. In a moment, the balloon, lightened of so large a portion of her burden, had sprung up above a thousand feet, and, clearing the mountain at a bound, was soon in rapid progress to the realms above. To counteract the consequence of this sudden accession of power, and avoid being carried beyond the reach of the second valley, which we have already described as the only other available spot for our descent, the valve was again opened, and issue given to a large quantity of gas.”

The descent was finally accomplished by the aid of the peasants collected to witness so marvellous a sight; and who, being rewarded from the brandy bottles of their visitors, whilst they drank off their allowance, “seemed, by the exclamation of ‘Himmlicher Schnapps,’ which accompanied every draught, as well as by the upward directions of their eyes, to denote the quarter from which, they now became fully convinced, a beverage so delicious could alone have proceeded.”

We may here notice that the plates which illustrate the most extraordinary of these scenes, are extremely interesting, and do credit to Mr. Mason's art. It was, certainly, to be regretted that the voyage was performed so late in the season. Surely the opening of morning on the longest day would be preferable to autumn, or winter and darkness, for such expeditions; but the balloon was a show all the summer, and could not be obtained for this great exploit.

From among a number of Mr. Mason's excellent remarks and reflections, we copy the following:—

“So long as the balloon is left free to pursue her own course upon the same level, unaffected by any of those excessive variations in her buoyancy which impress upon her a rapid motion, apart from that of the current in which she floats (as when she ascends or descends at the commencement or conclusion of her career, or by the sudden loss of any serious amount of gas or ballast during its continuance), this state of things remains uninterrupted, admits of

“This presumption will not appear so extravagant when we consider the enormous rapidity with which the course of the balloon is liable to be affected, and the impossibility of obtaining any indication as to its amount during the long period of darkness which we had just encountered. Had we continued to pursue the greatest rate of motion at which the balloon has been known to be impelled in these latitudes, we should, ere the period of our descent, have accomplished a distance of above two thousand miles.”

“The literal interpretation of the above expression is, ‘Celestial dram.’”

no qualifications, and is liable to no exceptions. Totally independent of the rate or direction of the current, it remains equally absolute whether the actual progress of the balloon be one, or one hundred miles an hour—whether it be on one continued line, or subject to the most rapid and incessant variation. The greatest storm that ever racked the face of nature is, in respect of its influence upon this condition of the balloon, as utterly powerless and inefficient as the most unruffled calm, the most unequivocal repose. To such an extent is this the case, so truly, indeed, is atmospheric resistance a nullity to the aeronaut, that, were we to suppose him (by way of illustration) suddenly transported to the Western Indies, the birth-place and habitation of the tornado and the hurricane; traversing the skies at a time when one of the wildest and fiercest was exercising its utmost powers of devastation; looking down from his air-borne car, and beholding houses levelled, trees uprooted, rocks translated from their stony beds and hurled into the sea, earth and ocean in mutual aggression encroaching upon each other's limits, and all the various signs of desolation by which its merciless path is marked,—he might, nevertheless, hold in his hand a lighted taper without extinguishing the flame, or even indicating, by its inclination to one side or the other, the direction of the mighty agent by which such awful ravages had been created. No sooner, however, has the grapnel touched the ground, and the slightest opposition been afforded to the progress of the balloon, than all this seeming tranquillity is at an end, and the aeronaut, for the first time, becomes sensible in his own person of the real influence of that mighty element of whose presence and power he had hitherto been able to judge through the medium of his sight alone."

The discovery that clouds often appear in layers, with clear intervening horizontal spaces between them, is dwelt upon at considerable length; and Mr. M. states, as a general rule, that wherever a fall of rain is present, and the sky is entirely overcast with clouds, "there will be invariably found to exist another stratum of the same bodies at a certain elevation above the former;" and, on the contrary, "whenever, with the same apparent condition of the sky, rain is altogether or generally absent, the aeronaut, upon traversing the canopy immediately above him, may infallibly calculate upon entering into an upper hemisphere, either perfectly cloudless, or so far destitute of such bodies as not much to interfere with the general character here bestowed upon it." This observation, which, independent of its value in other respects, is an addition to the stock of the meteorologist which he could never have obtained without the co-operation of the aeronaut, may be relied upon; it has been confirmed by the experience of Mr. Green, throughout a course of nearly two hundred and fifty ascents, and corroborated by that of various other aeronauts, both at home and abroad.

"Varied as are the positions of the clouds, and the forms under which they present themselves, the station which they occupy in the realms of space is confined enough, and, comparatively speaking, but little removed above the immediate surface of the earth itself. As a general rule, the natural region of the clouds may be stated to be a stratum of the atmosphere, lying between the level of the first thousand feet, and that of one removed about ten thousand feet above it. Not but that occasionally clouds may be found that trespass very considerably on both sides of the bounds here assigned to them; sometimes penetrating in wreaths of

mist to the depths of the lowest valleys, while, on the other hand, long after the aeronaut has passed the upper level of these fancied limits, some faint indications of their existence may still be seen, partially obscuring the dark blue vault above him; such excesses, however, are by no means frequent, and may, in fact, rather be considered in the light of exceptions to a rule than as evidences tending to impugn its general correctness.

"Should the condition of the sky prove to be of the nature of that alluded to (where, for instance, a dense layer of clouds completely intercepts all view of the earth), the aeronaut will probably have an opportunity of observing another phenomenon connected with the disposition of the vapoury strata,—the beautiful manner in which, even when under the influence of rapid motion, they seem to accommodate themselves to all the variations of form in the surface of the subjacent soil, rising with its prominences and sinking with its depressions; displaying, in short, a 'counterfeit presentment' of the country over which they lie, and enabling the spectator to form, as it were, a sort of phrenological estimate of the character and disposition of the material world within. Indeed, I have heard Mr. Green declare that, with the bird's-eye knowledge of the country his long experience has conferred upon him, he has frequently been able to determine beforehand the district into which he was about to descend, at times when, from the general concealment of the landscape, such information must have been otherwise altogether unattainable."

That the sky is not blue, but "outer darkness," and, consequently, a black vault, is discussed, but we have not room for the argument; and must now, indeed, descend from our high position into the bottom of the bowl which the earth presents,* and merely add, that, in a list of all the aeronauts who have ever climbed the heavenly steep, Mr. Mason forgets to include himself, surely one of the most distinguished of them all.

The Fan-qui in China. In 1836-7. By C. Toogood Downing, Esq.; Mem. Roy. Coll. Surgeons. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1838. Colburn.

HAVING spent some time at Canton, and, from his medical character, been admitted somewhat behind the curtain drawn by Chinese jealousy, Mr. Downing has here given us a particular account of all he could gather of their interior manners, and added it to the mass of general information which he has derived from preceding authors. His work is, accordingly, as minute a description of China, her trade, and customs, as could be made up from such sources: and he has employed his pencil in illustrating it in a pleasant and characteristic manner. A couple of selections will abundantly serve to shew the nature of his performance; and we seek those which appear to be "of the newest" or least known.

"The duck-boats are certainly to be ranked among the curious singularities of the Chinese. They are large and roomy, with a broad walk extending round the covered parts a little above the surface of the water. If the Irishman may be said to give the best side of the fire to his pig because he pays the rent, surely the Chinaman may with equal propriety give the best part of his house to the accommodation of the ducks. They have the large apartments

* It is curious that, to persons in the balloon, the earth, on looking down, does not present a convex, but a concave appearance; the edges of the terrestrial plane rising in their horizon in the shape of a punch-bowl.

at the after part of the boat, while the man with his family exists in a miserable hovel at the head. With which society to associate, it would require some little hesitation to decide; but, perhaps, the ducks would have the preference. In the morning, the doors are opened, and the birds wander round the house at their pleasure. When the sun is high, large inclined planes are let down at the sides of the boat; one towards the land, and the other towards the water. Up and down these steps the feathered bipeds travel at their pleasure, and take a cruise on land or water, but are prevented from proceeding too far by their anxious overseers. When it is time to retire the man gives a whistle, and at the sound every bird returns, and waddles back again into his warm, comfortable berth. When they are all on board, the stairs are hoisted to the horizontal position by means of a long bamboo lever, and every thing is then made secure for the night. The proprietor of one of these boats is able to gain a livelihood by the care of these birds, which he watches with somewhat of the same kind of parental fondness as a hen over a brood of young ducklings just emerged from the shell."

Other food is thus mentioned.

"The Chinese dog is not much esteemed in Europe, where there is a great variety to choose from. It is nearly of the same kind as those which are brought from Kamschatka, with a sharp face and a thick coat of soft and woolly hair. They make very good house dogs, and are used as such in China, as their voices are sharp and clear. There are, generally, one or two of them on board each of the junks and all craft of a certain magnitude, as they are very convenient animals to take to sea; since they require very little care to be taken of them, and they are always ready in case a deficiency of provisions should oblige their masters to have them served out for chow-chow. They feed chiefly upon fish and rice, and on that account alone, require less provision to be made for them than other animals, as they can be sustained upon the refuse of the Chinese sailors, who rarely procure animal food. The butchers in Canton are always obliged to carry a stick or some other weapon with them, as the live animals are apt to attack them in revenge for the murder of their relations. The flesh is hung up in the markets in the same manner as that of the sheep with us, and is sold by weight. The young puppies, esteemed a delicacy in the same way as lambs are in Europe, are brought for sale in cages or baskets, carried at the ends of a bamboo on the shoulders. These little animals are very pretty, with the wool often of a beautiful white colour, and, if we could reconcile ourselves to the idea of eating their species at all, these would be the first morsels which we should feel inclined to swallow. The young ladies of the Celestial Empire make pets of the handsomer kinds of cat, so that they are often to be found in the houses of the rich. The poorer people cannot afford to keep these expensive luxuries, and, therefore, their flesh is a general article of consumption. When it is well fed, it is considered even superior to that of the dogs, and is to be seen, occasionally, upon the tables of the opulent. A small species of wild cat is sometimes caught in the southern provinces, and is brought to market as a great dainty. It is considered game, and none but the rich can afford to eat it. Rats and mice are confined almost exclusively to the very poorest people. The former are often seen in long rows, skinned and otherwise prepared, and hung up by dozens, with a small piece of wood passed

across from one hind leg to another. At Whampoa, these little animals are eagerly sought after by those in the boats, whenever they are caught on board the ships. Their bite seems to be utterly disregarded, as I have seen a rat fastened with a string tied to the hind leg, to the top of one of the covers of a boat, to form the plaything of a little boy or girl. Whenever the captive wretch had got to the end of the tether, the little urchin has taken it up with the greatest nonchalance by the poll of the neck, and put it into its place again. The way of catching the large water-rat is so peculiarly Chinese, that it deserves to be mentioned. These animals live in holes under the excavated banks of streams, and from thence sally forth into the water. The rat-catcher proceeds in the darkness of the night to the spot, and places one of his showy lanterns immediately before the hole. When the rat comes out to see what is the matter, he is so astonished and dazzled with the light that he becomes motionless, and then the Chinaman is enabled to capture him with ease. Almost every kind of wholesome vegetable is eaten by the Chinese, but the principal food of this kind is rice. In the northern provinces, wheat is cultivated to a considerable extent; but the districts to the southward are almost universally covered with paddy. This, then, may be considered the staff of life in the East; and animal food, of whatever kind, is but a scarce and expensive luxury to the half-famished pauper. The liquid portion of the repast does not present so great a variety as the solid. Tea is the national drink, and is consumed indiscriminately by the poor and the rich. It is always used, even in the most miserable hovel or sampan, and is served out at every meal with an unsparing hand. The very poorest class of persons, however, in the most distant of the provinces from those wherein the tea-plant is cultivated, are obliged to find a substitute. For this purpose they use the leaves of the fern, which are prepared and sold in the same manner as Bohea and Pekoe. The green teas are never used by the natives, but are prepared expressly for foreigners. Other drinks there are, equivalent to our beer and wines, made from fermented rice; one of them, sam-shu, has been already described. Opium is used in considerable quantities as an exhilarating agent, especially in the southern provinces; and tobacco is smoked almost universally, to produce a calm and tranquil state of mind."

Fitzherbert; or, Lovers and Fortune-Hunters.

By the Authoress of "The Bride of Sienna." 3 vols. London, 1838. Saunders and Otley. THE fair author is already favourably known to the public, by a poem of considerable merit; but this is her first attempt in prose, and also does great credit to her talent. The story is well concocted, and scenes of pathos are wrought with all the power and sensibility of a young writer. There are, also, some satirical sketches which evince observation and acuteness. The whole forms a novel of sufficient interest for the general reader. We are sorry that our want of room puts quotation out of the question.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Life of Gustavus Adolphus the Great, King of Sweden. By J. F. Hollings. (Family Library, No. LXV.) Pp. 486. London, 1838. Tegg and Co.

CLEARLY, simply, and unaffectedly written, this is as appropriate and interesting a volume as the whole series of the "Family Library" can boast. Blending all the truth of history with all the spirit of romance, and reflecting

one of the most momentous epochs of European and religious struggle, the *Life of Gustavus Adolphus*, the hero of Protestantism, well deserved to be presented to the public in a form at once convenient, cheap, and popular. Mr. Hollings has performed his task with great fidelity and ability; and has produced a volume so full of attraction, that the instruction it conveys is received with all the pleasure which more generally belongs to works intended for mere amusements.

Hints for the Table, or the Economy of Good Living. Pp. 167. London, 1838. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

WE have rarely seen so small a book contain so much, or such a variety of information. Hundreds of sources must have been consulted, whence to gather so many curious notices and hints on all sorts of eating and drinking. A table prefixed calculates these at 986; among which are, 74 anecdotes, 81 references to wine, 32 about national dinners, 35 about servants, 96 about fish, &c. &c. The whole, we can assure our readers, is very entertaining, as well as useful.

A Series of Discourses preached in Bowdoin Chapel, on Subjects from the Cartoons of Raphael, &c. By the Rev. W. L. Bowles. Second Edition. 8vo. Pp. 100. 1838. Salisbury, Brodie and Co.; London, Murray.

IF ever there was a painter whose works deserved to be illustrated by a Christian preacher, it was the divine Raffaele; and of all the productions of his unrivalled pencil none are so strikingly suited to that purpose as the Cartoons. Theology is not within the bounds which we prescribe to ourselves in our literary labours; but we may be allowed to say, that the same amiable spirit manifests itself in these discourses as has invariably distinguished their highly gifted author's former volumes. "In a gainsaying age," he observes, "amid the strife and chidings of religious and political animosity, I presume to call the attention of the more peaceable and serious to the contemplation of silent works of unrivalled art, illustrating, impressively, some of the most sublime and affecting scenes and events of the Gospel history: and I humbly offer these reflections on such scenes and characters, so vividly set before our senses, to those who, in a licentious and turbulent age, 'fear God and honour the Queen,' and, through good and evil report, love the altars of their country, and 'walk humbly with their God.'"

* * * To this volume of sermons, if God gives him life and health, it is the intention of the author to add one other volume of 'The Village Church,' with Parochial Sermons, and the two Verse Books for Village Children,—and he hopes then to conclude his pensive song of many years, and his long and last ministerial labours, with a farewell for ever, thankful that, among his works of prose or poetry, no sentence, from youth to age, has, he trusts, escaped his pen, that may cause him pain, on reflection, when he is called to his account."

Happy the man, possessed of such talents, who can say as much!

The Moral and Intellectual School-Book, &c. &c., by W. Martin, editor of the "Educational Magazine," &c. Pp. 348. (London, Darton and Clark.)—We have had occasion to bestow warm praise upon the previous publications of Mr. Martin for the use of schools and the instruction of youth; nor is it less due to the present volume, which is a good miscellany, both as regards its original and selected matter. The lessons lead to a thorough acquaintance with the English language; and extracts from modern poets, with remarks on the writers, are judiciously chosen to cultivate the taste and improve the mind.

A Plain Digest of the Law of Wills, &c., by a Member of the Legal Profession. Pp. 107. (London, Simpkin,

Marshall, and Co.)—Another useful book of directions, rendered necessary by the great change in the laws touching testamentary bequests and their legal forms.*

ARTS AND SCIENCES. GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

APRIL 23, Mr. Hamilton in the chair.—Members were elected. Read, 'The Narrative of the Arctic Discovery Expedition, under Messrs. Dease and Simpson.' Communicated by T. H. Pelly, Esq. Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company. The formation and equipment of this highly interesting expedition were intrusted to Mr. Simpson, the resident governor, in the spring of 1836. That gentleman, on his arrival from England at Norway House, Lake Winnipeg, in the month of June of the same year, bent up for volunteers for this arduous service: two active and enterprising leaders, Messrs. P. W. Dease and T. Simpson, and twelve men, were immediately selected and forwarded with the necessary supplies to Fort Chipewyan, Athabasca Lake, where they passed the winter of 1836-7. Immediately after the opening of the navigation on the 1st June, 1837, the party started from Fort Chipewyan in two small boats, which they had constructed in the course of the winter, descended the Slave River, passed the western end of the Great Slave Lake, where they were detained several days by ice, and descended Mackenzie's River to Fort Norman, where they arrived on the 1st of July. From Fort Norman they despatched two of their party, with two other men belonging to the Fort, to the eastern end of Great Bear Lake, for the purpose of erecting a small establishment at which they might take up their quarters for the following winter, and of laying up a stock of provisions preparatory to an extension of their survey in the summer of 1838. These arrangements being made, Messrs. Dease and Simpson, with the remainder of their people, forming a party of twelve in all, continued their route down the Mackenzie, and reached Fort Good Hope, the most northern establishment belonging to the Company, on the 4th, where they found an assemblage of Hare and Loucheux Indians, from whom they learned that the Esquimaux had killed three of their party a short time previous, which prevented the discoverers taking an interpreter from that tribe. On the 9th of July they reached the ocean by the most westerly mouth of the Mackenzie, making its situation in lat. 68° 49' N., long. 136° 37' W. They had proceeded but a short distance to seaward, when a party of nineteen Esquimaux went off to them from Tent Island, who shewed a disposition to be troublesome, but returned to their encampment when they found the party prepared to defend themselves if necessary. The progress of the party along the coast was very slow, owing to the frequent obstructions from ice, cold dense fogs, and strong head-winds. On the afternoon of the 11th, they reached Point Kay, where they found another encampment of Esquimaux, and where they were detained by a compact body of ice, occupying Phillip's Bay until the 14th. They continued their route till the 17th, when an unbroken pack of ice, extending to seaward, made them seek the shore in Camden Bay, near a large encampment of Esquimaux, who received them kindly. In the afternoon there appeared a narrow passage of water through the ice stretching

* *Will and Codicil Papers.*—Forms, under these names, have just been published (T. and W. Boone), and give plain and useful directions for executing testamentary bequests, so as to be of legal authority according to the recent changes made by the legislature.

outwards, and they immediately embarked, but had not proceeded three miles, when the ice suddenly closed upon them and obliged them to pass an inclement and anxious night on a large floe of ice. On the 23d, they reached Sir John Franklin's Return Keep, his extreme point. July 26th, they passed the Garry River, about one mile broad. From Cape Halkett the coast turned suddenly off to the W.N.W. Point Drew, seven miles distant from the last encampment, is the commencement of a bay of considerable size, but extremely shallow, and much encumbered with ice. To seaward the ice was still smooth and solid, as in the depth of a sunless winter. At midnight they reached a narrow projecting point, across which the peaks of some high icebergs appeared. This point they named Cape George Simpson, as a mark of respect for the Governor of the Company's territory, to whose excellent arrangements the success of the expedition is in a great measure indebted. This point was destined to be the limit of their boat navigation; for, during the four following days, they were only able to advance as many miles. The weather was foggy, and dismally cold; the wild fowl passed in long flights to the westward, and there seemed little prospect of their being able to reach Beechey's Point Barrow by water. Boat Extreme is situated in lat. $71^{\circ} 3' N.$ long. $154^{\circ} 26' W.$; variation of compass, $42\frac{1}{2}^{\circ} E.$ Under these circumstances, Mr. Thomas Simpson undertook to complete the journey on foot, and, accordingly, started on the 1st of August with five men, Mr. Dease and the other five remaining in charge of the boats. The pedestrians carried with them their arms, some ammunition, pemican, a small oiled canvass canoe for the crossing of rivers, the necessary astronomical instruments, and a few trinkets for the natives. They shortly desisted, at no great distance, a small camp of Esquimaux, to which they immediately directed their steps. The men were absent hunting, and the women and children took to their boat in the greatest alarm, leaving behind them an infirm man, who was in an agony of fear. A few words of friendship removed his apprehensions, and brought back the fugitives, who were equally surprised and delighted to behold white men. They set before the party fresh reindeer meat, and seal oil. Mr. Simpson now determined to adopt a more expeditious mode of travelling, by obtaining the loan of one of their *oomiaks*, or family skin canoes, to convey the party to Point Barrow, with which, from a chart drawn by one of the women, it appeared that these people were well acquainted. Dease's Inlet is five miles broad at this place, yet so low is the land, that the one shore is just visible from the other in the clearest weather. Next morning, August 3d, the fog cleared for awhile, but it was still bitterly cold, and the swell beat violently on the outside of a heavy line of ice which lay packed upon the shore. To weather this was a work of danger; but the good qualities of their boat, after a severe trial, carried them safely through. At midnight they passed the mouth of a fine deep river, to which Mr. Simpson gave the name of Bellevue; and, in less than an hour afterwards, the rising sun gratified him with the view of Point Barrow stretching out to the N.N.W. They soon crossed Elson Bay, which, in the perfect calm, had acquired a rough coating of young ice. On reaching it, and seeing the ocean extending away to the southward, they hoisted their flag, and, with three cheers, took possession of their discoveries in his late majesty's name. After

a short stay here, they bade adieu to their good-humoured and admiring entertainers, the Esquimaux, and the party set out on their return. They reached the western mouth of the Mackenzie on the 17th August, and Fort Norman on the 4th September, from whence their report is dated on the following day.

The sequel in our next.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

FEB. 21. Mr. Whewell, President, in the chair.—A paper was read 'On Part of Asia Minor,' by Mr. W. J. Hamilton. This memoir gave a detailed account of the author's observations on the geological structure of the country from Mount Hassán Dagh, near Akserai (lat. $38^{\circ} 20' N.$ long. about 34°), to the great salt lake of Toozla, or Kodj-Hissar, and thence eastwards to Casarea and Mount Argæus. The summit of Hassán Dagh is upwards of 8000 feet above the level of the sea; and the whole of the mountain is composed of trachyte and other igneous rocks. At its base are several volcanic cones; and, as they are situated in the present valley, Mr. Hamilton assigned their eruption to a period subsequent to its excavation. From one of them he traced a considerable stream of black, vesicular lava, and found that it encircled some of the smaller cones. The valley between Hassán Dagh and the salt lake is bounded on the south by low hills of the fresh-water limestone which constitutes so great a portion of Central Asia; and on the north by hills of red sandstone, calcareous conglomerates, sand, and marl. These strata are capped towards the east and north-east by beds of volcanic tuff, and a white pumiceous rock, which passes into trachyte; and still further east is a hill in which the sandstone rests on a trachytic conglomerate. From the volcanic rocks occurring in the hills, both below and above the sandstone, as well as in the valley at the foot of Hassán Dagh, the author inferred that there had been igneous eruptions at very different periods, and that the latest proceeded from the cones at the base of that mountain. The lake of Kodj-Hissar is said to be thirty hours, or leagues, in circumference, and the water is so highly charged with salt that it contains no fish: if the wings of a bird touch it, they become immediately incrustated and useless. The bottom of the lake is a soft mud, incapable of bearing the slightest weight; but at the part examined by Mr. Hamilton, the mud was covered by a thick solid crust of salt, which permitted him to traverse it on a horse. Between Kodj-Hissar and Casarea, a distance of about 180 miles, the country consists of the same sandstone system, sometimes containing gypsum, though, as far as the author could determine, no salt, and overlaid by beds of the lacustrine limestone and volcanic tuff; but the latter also constitute large tracts, the fundamental rock of which is not visible. Granite also forms a range of hills, thirty miles in extent, between Kodj-Hissar and Sari-karaman; and it likewise occurs between the latter town and Tatlar. Trachyte, serpentine greenstone, and basalt, were noticed at several places. To the north and north-east of Tatlar, Mr. Hamilton observed several volcanic hills from which streams of basalt, or lava, had apparently flowed. In a ravine near that village, and in the valleys of Uch-hissar and Urjub, he noticed cones from 150 to 300 feet in height, consisting entirely of tuff. They are, generally, detached from the sides of the valleys, but are connected at their base; and, from the manner in which they are grouped, they resemble, at a distance, a grove

of lofty cypresses. These cones appear to have been formed out of thick beds of tuff by atmospheric agents, for on the side of the valleys they exhibit every stage of development, from the first indication of a mound, near the summit of the slope, to the full-formed cone at the bottom. They are sometimes capped by a mass of hard rock, which projects over them like the head of a mushroom. One of Mr. Hamilton's principal objects in visiting Asia Minor was to ascend the summit of Mount Argæus, and he is the first European traveller who has succeeded in the undertaking. This mountain rises abruptly from the alluvial plain of Casarea, to the height of about 13,000 feet; but sends out spurs or projections to the north, and is connected at its eastern base with other ranges of mountains. It rises to a single peak, and resembles in outline the summit of Ararat. It consists of igneous products, and the highest part is the point of junction of two enormous broad craters, one of which opens to the N.E., and the other N.W. At the foot of the great cone on the S.E., W., and N. sides, are numerous smaller ones, of pumice and lapilli; from some of which, on the N.W. side, streams of basalt, or lava, may be traced. In conclusion, Mr. Hamilton expressed his regret that the general want of organic remains prevented him from offering any means of comparison between the rocks of the country described in the paper, and the formations of Europe.

MARCH 7. The president in the chair.—A notice, by Mr. H. E. Strickland, was read, 'On some remarkable Dikes of Calcareous Grit, which intersect the Lias Shale, on the Shore at Ethie, in Ross-shire.' These dikes are visible only at low water, and project from one to three feet above the surface of the lias shale. They exhibit no signs of lamination; but they are frequently fractured transversely, and the grit, on being broken, presents the chatoyant lustre so common in the Fontainebleau and other sandstones. Two of the dikes range parallel to the beds of shale; but a third, which sends off several branches, is in no part of its course parallel to them. The dikes were noticed by Mr. Murchison, in his examination of the coast of Scotland, in 1826, as well as similar ones in other places. Mr. Strickland offered no explanation of their origin, his only object being to draw the further attention of geologists to the phenomena which they present.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

FRIDAY, 20th April, Dr. McIntyre in the chair.—Members were elected. The secretary read 'Some Observations on the Genus *Myosotes*,' by Mr. Wallis. There are few of our British genera that have received so many additions of late years as the genus *Myosotes*. Linnæus, in his great work on natural history, has described only two species, and includes under them one or two varieties which have since been established as species, the two individuals which he has admitted into his work are *M. palustris* and *M. arvensis*: these, then, may be taken as types of the genus; the other species possessing a claim to that name only from some slight variations in the respective characters. The remarks of Mr. Wallis were confined to three of the newly admitted species, *M. sylvatica*, *M. versicolor*, *M. collina*, which have been pronounced as specifically distinct by some of the ablest and most experienced botanists. Each was compared with each, and all with the *M. arvensis*, and their distinctive characters described; Mr. Wallis considered

that there existed an uniformity of character in the individuals in question, and that the apparent distinction arises solely from respective peculiarities of soil and situation; and suggested that, if difference of soil operates so powerfully in producing such varied, and, perhaps, permanent distinctions of character, it will become a subject worthy attention how this peculiar operation takes place.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

SATURDAY, 21st April.—Read, 'The Report of the Committee appointed by the Society to test the Action of an Instrument invented by Lieut. Morrison, R.N., and denominated by him, a "Portable Magnet Electrometer."' On reference to *Literary Gazette*, No. 1101, it will be seen that the action of the instrument was considered, in the opinion of the inventor and of the Meteorological Society, by whom numerous observations had been made, to be "neither thermo-electrical, nor hygro-electrical, but simply electrical;" and, also, that Lieut. Morrison requested a committee of the Electrical Society to test, by observations and otherwise, and finally decide upon the efficacy and utility of the instrument. The "electrometer" was submitted to the British Association in August last, and is to be again brought before them at the next meeting: it has acquired considerable notoriety in this country, as also amongst scientific individuals and societies upon the Continent. The result, however, of the following experiments described in the report, appears to set at rest the utility of the instrument as an "electrometer," and attributes its action to the hygrometric state of the string, gold lace, or metallic thread, that suspends the needle, denying that the deflection of the needle could be due to electric action. The easterly deflection is stated to be an indication of positive, and the westerly of negative electricity in the atmosphere. When the deflection had attained 45° east, a gold-leaf electroscope was connected, by a copper wire, with the conducting rod of the instrument; but, even with the assistance of a condensing plate, the gold leaves did not diverge in the slightest manner. A glass rod and stick of sealing-wax were then successively excited with silk and flannel, and brought within three or four feet of the point of the instrument; the leaves of the electroscope immediately diverged, but without any apparent effect upon the suspended magnetic needle of the "electrometer." The deflection of the needle, in another similar instrument, but of larger dimensions, suspended by a silver lace thread, eight inches long (the thread of the other instrument was gold lace, two inches long, the difference in length being favourable to great action), never exceeded 10° east. But when an excited rod was brought near the point, an immediate deflection of 100° or 120° took place easterly, whether the excited rod was glass or resin, thereby proving that the deflection was owing to the delicacy of the suspending thread, to the principle of electric action, and not to any electro-magnetic action; for, in the latter case, the deflections would have been in contrary directions. A needle of zinc, also a slip of straw, were tried, and in both cases considerable deflections were the result. Three instruments were used in these experiments, and submitted to the observations of the committee for several successive days; the deflections were severally noted and exhibited, in a tabular form, to the Society. The conducting rods were removed, at different times, from each instrument, without any effect on the

deflections, which invariably remained steady. To whatever cause the deflection of the needle might be attributed, it cannot be due to electric action, or the electroscope would have been affected; nor to any peculiar property in the magnetic needle, as in that case the strips of zinc and straw would not have been acted upon; further, the rod attached to the instrument cannot in any way affect the action, as the deflections remained when the rods were removed. From these facts it became evident that the cause must be in the string, lace, or metallic thread, to test which the instrument—the needle adjusted to the meridian—was put upon a stool with a hole in it, under which boiling water was placed, so that the steam should ascend into the receiver. The needle deflected 70° west; and, on substituting a lighted spirit-lamp for the water, the needle very shortly returned to the meridian, proving that the deflections are due to the hygrometric state of the string. The report expressed the hope, that the experiments would shew that the inquiry had been entered upon with the full determination of examining the merits of the instrument; and the following opinion, that the utility of the instrument as an electrometer, had even ordinary care been taken, would have long since been set at rest, and the valuable time which the inventor expended in noting the hourly deflections, might have been profitably employed in other pursuits. Several members addressed the meeting. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the report be received and confirmed by the Society, printed, and circulated. Thanks were voted to the committee.—Adjourned.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

PROFESSOR RIGAUD in the chair.—The paper read was 'An Account of the Line of Levels undertaken by the Officers of the Euphrates Expedition,' communicated by Capt. Beaufort, with botanical and geological notes by Mr. Ainsworth. On this interesting subject we have already given many particulars, dated from the Euphrates. The levels in question were first undertaken, it will be recollected, by Col. Chesney, in conjunction with a little party of our scientific and intrepid countrymen. The author, in the commencement of his paper, notices the opinion of Strabo, Pliny, and other writers; observing, that they had been handed down to modern times, and (though, in part, erroneous) adopted by Major Rennell and some other engineers. The author next touches on the obstacles which presented themselves to the commencement of scientific operations, in the sickness of nearly all, and the death of one or more, of the officers of the expedition. The result, however, was, that the level of the Euphrates is 628 feet above that of the Mediterranean sea. We pass over the geological details as by far too technical and profound for note-taking. The part of country embraced in the line of levels was not by any means an extensive one; it was divided into four districts, which presented singular diversities as regarded structure, aspect, cultivation, and population; indeed, the organic features, if we may say so, even to man, were influenced by soil.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

At the annual meeting on Thursday, the Earl of Ripon, president, in the chair, the report of the council on last year's proceedings was read by the secretary, Mr. Cattermole; and also a summary of the papers at the ordinary meet-

ings. Lord Ripon then addressed the Society, and pointed out the merit and interest of many of the papers which had been published in its Transactions; but, further, threw out a suggestion, that if it undertook and brought out some work of great utility, it would probably lead to the extension of the association, the augmentation of its power, and its taking a higher stand in national importance, when so many other societies had been established for the promotion of particular sciences and pursuits. His lordship read a letter from Mr. W. Tooke on this subject, and recommending an English Biography, from the seventh century to the present time, chronologically arranged, as a fitting work to be so undertaken; and it was understood that the council would take the matter into consideration. The noble chairman, in conclusion, referred to the many efforts of Sir Walter Scott, during the later years of his life; and pointed out this individual example as a proof that, however vast an object might be, there ought never to be despair of success. Thanks were voted to his lordship, and his address was ordered to be printed. The following noblemen and gentlemen were elected for the ensuing year.

President.—The Earl of Ripon.
Vice-Presidents.—The Dukes of Newcastle, Rutland, and Sutherland; the Earl of Belmore; Lord Bexley; Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart.; H. Hallam, W. M. Leake, L. H. Pett, Esqs.; the Rev. J. H. Spry, D.D.
Council.—The Earl of Munster; Lord Prudhoe; Sir Matthew Tierney, Bart.; Dr. Bostock; the Rev. R. Cattermole (Secretary); the Very Rev. G. Chandler, D.D.; the Rev. H. Clissold; N. W. R. Colborne, N. Connop, W. R. Hamilton (Foreign Secretary), H. Holland, W. Jacob (Treasurer), W. Jordan, D. Pollock, Esqs.; the Rev. G. Tomlinson, W. Tooke, Esq.
Auditors.—The Rev. G. Beresford; J. Morice, Esq.
Librarian.—The Rev. H. Clissold.
Clerk and Collector.—Mr. N. Hill.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

ON St. George's day, the Society held their annual meeting for the election of the president and officers for the ensuing year, Mr. Hudson Gurney in the chair, when the Earl of Aberdeen was re-elected President; Mr. Amyot, Treasurer; Mr. Gage, Director; and Mr. Carille and Sir Henry Ellis, Secretaries; and were, with H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, Mr. Hudson Gurney, Mr. Hallam, Mr. Hamilton, Sir F. Madden, and the Right Hon. Charles W. Williams Wynn, re-elected into the Council; and Mr. Beltz, Sir F. L. Chantrey, Mr. Haggard, Mr. H. Gally Knight, Mr. Locker, the Right Hon. Sir Gore Ouseley, Mr. Pettigrew, the Bishop of Ripon, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Stapleton, were chosen the new members of the Council; after which, about fifty of the fellows of the Society dined at the Freemasons' Tavern.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tuesday.—Royal Institution (anniversary): Horticultural (anniversary), 1 P.M.; Linnean, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 3 P.M.; Institute of Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 7½ P.M.
Thursday.—Royal Society, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 3 P.M.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.
Saturday.—Royal Asiatic Anniversary, 1 P.M.; Harveian, 8 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The 34th Exhibition of this Society was yesterday visited by Her Majesty and the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Barham, Lady Flora Hastings, the Marquess of Conyngham, Lord Gardner, Col. Wemyss, and Mr. Murray. The royal party were received by Mr. Fielding, Mr. Hills, Mr. Mackenzie, and

by Messrs. Gastineau, W. Evans, De Wint, and F. Taylor, the Committee. Her Majesty remained a considerable time in the rooms, conversing affably with the artists, and seeming to be much gratified with the exhibition. Nor do we wonder at her receiving pleasure from it; for a rapid view, which we were afterwards enabled to take, shewed us that it is equal to the finest ever yet opened to the admiration of the public. The *coup d'œil* is charming; and some improvements in ventilating and lighting, added greatly to the comfort of the visitors and effect of the pictures. The centre place is occupied by a scene from *Salvator Rosa*, painted by Cattermole, and a more splendid work of art was never produced in water colours. Casting our eye hastily round the room, we were struck by the varied beauties of the productions of Cristall (No. 29); Nesfield (Bambro' Castle, 53); C. Fielding, several landscapes and sea-pieces of extraordinary talent. W. Evans (Haddon 71, Naworth 81, and Windsor, lovely views); F. Nash (Cochem, on the Moselle, 100), a superb scene; Prout (101), a perfect Canaletti; Lewis (129), one of his best pictures; Harding (143), a charming Moeselle subject; Hunt (Cymon and Iphigenia, 182), and many others of perfect truth; Lake Price (the Oratory, 197), a very rich interior; J. M. Wright, Hills, Gastineau, Mackenzie, Taylor, Mrs. Seyffarth, Miss Sharpe, and others, all excellent of their kind.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THIS Society, having engaged the Gallery in Pall Mall, next door to the British Institution, will this day open their fourth Exhibition to the public. We had the opportunity, yesterday, at the private view, of taking a hasty peep at it; and we are happy to report that the collection of drawings is as much superior to that of any former year as are the rooms and situation in which those drawings are to be seen. Our limited time and space will not allow us to enter into any particular remarks until next week; but, among many other beautiful performances, we were especially charmed with Warren's "The Sons of Jacob before Joseph," and "View near Guilford;" E. Corbould's "Anne of Geierstein," and "A Sketch from Dryden's Fables;" Weigall's "Assassination of Thomas à Becket," and "Fowls;" Hughes's "Hall in the Palace of Justice at Bruges," and "Church of St. Maclaou, Rouen;" Fahey's "Sunday Morning," and "The Beggar's Prayer;" Hick's "Dominican Friar of the Thirteenth Century, preaching a Crusade;" Duncan's "Squall coming on," and "Interior of a Fisherman's Cottage;" Martin's "The Assuaging of the Waters;" Howse's "View in Rouen;" Shepherd's "Richmond Hill;" Campion's "Welsh Peasants going to Market;" Johnston's "Brazilian Slave Dealer;" Maisey's "View from the Park of Dromana;" Person's "Strand Gate, Winchelsea," &c. &c.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

[Fifth and concluding notice.]

THE contents of the Water-colour Room will be found no less interesting than the other parts of this Exhibition. As examples, we shall point out some of those which come more immediately within the range of our inspection.

No. 51. *Falls of Niagara*. D. T. Egerton. This beautiful and highly finished drawing reminds us of those antique gems which, in the compass of a ring, convey to the imagination not only the proportions of the human form, but enlarge them to the size of life. In like

manner, the amplitude of these gigantic falls are here brought before the mind's eye.

No. 47. *A Camaldolese Monk preaching the Cross to a wandering Turk*. D. Fowler.—Never was there a more perfect contrast seen, both in the view and in the figures. In the latter, indifference on the one hand, and energy on the other; while the *ultra* blue of the distance is equally opposed to the warm colours of the foreground.

No. 36. *Snowdon, from the Pass of Drus y Coed, &c. North Wales*. G. Barnard.—Replete with picturesque character, and fluent and powerful pencilling.

No. 93. *Church at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire*. Miss Steers.—We may fully compliment this lady on the free and broad style of her execution.

In Nos. 210 and 214, the subject, *Manfred*, by J. Martin, we find the same chaste and sublime character which always distinguishes this able artist's works.

In Nos. 267, *the Present*, and 272, *the Student*, by C. Martin (the son of the above), there is much originality of design, united with other requisite qualities of art.

No. 201. *Kept in*. E. A. Gifford.—Whimsically shewing how a mischievous boy can employ himself, while under the punishment of confinement.

No. 99. *English Hussars*. H. Martens.—We have no artist who enters more completely into the spirit and character of these subjects, of which this is a very clever example.

No. 213. *Gleaners*. A. H. Taylor.—Cheerful and animating, whether present or perspective.

No. 234. *The New Shoes*. F. T. Baynes.—A natural exhibition of childish vanity, very differently felt and thought of by the young and by the old.

No. 245. *Old Friends*. Miss E. Landseer.—An aged female and her faithful dog are well-assorted companions. Miss Landseer has fully comprehended the character of her subject.

Old buildings, streets, churches, &c. will be found finely executed in the works of L. L. Wood, H. Oliver, G. W. Shury, G. Sintzernich, &c.

The miniatures hold their usual rank in merit and attraction. Among them we would especially point out No. 153. *Her most Gracious Majesty*. H. Collen.—No. 154. *A Frame, with Portraits of Mrs. Benyon and Mrs. Dawson*. Mrs. J. Robertson.—No. 159. *The Duchess of Roxburgh*. A. Robertson.—No. 198. *Lady Harriet Ann Countess D'Orsay*. W. Barclay.—No. 181. *Edith*. Miss E. M. Derby. There are some very clever portraits in drawing; for instance, No. 57. *Mrs. Spencer*. W. Barclay.—No. 115. *The Viscountess Barington*; and No. 168. *Rev. George Hoste*. F. Cruikshank.—No. 205. *Lady Mary Corbett*. Mrs. James Robertson. Of flowers, fruit, &c. there are some brilliant examples: viz. No. 250. *Fruit*. V. Bartholomew. The works of this artist cannot be too highly spoken of, though they may be hung too high for inspection; which is the case in the present instance.—No. 69. *White Doves*. W. Spry.—No. 101. *Glass of Flowers*; and No. 203. *Cornelias*. Mrs. M. Harrison.—No. 211. *Fruit*. J. A. Cahusac.—No. 291. *Flowers from Nature*. E. Bourne.—No. 296. *Fruit, in Crayons*. Anne Paulson; &c.

Our first impressions of the sculpture were favourable, nor has further observation lessened them. Statues, groups, and busts, are, in their several ways, distinguished for their skillful execution, character, and fair proportions.

Among the principal statues, are No. 643. *Isidus, a Spartan Youth*, &c.—No. 641. *Diomed*, &c.; and 645. *An Italian Shepherd Boy*. By W. Scouler. These, with 642, *Scene in the Deluge*, by the same artist, are specimens not only of Mr. Scouler's talents, but of the versatility of his powers.—No. 640. *Adonis watching the Chase*. R. C. Lucas. Beautiful in symmetry, and animated in action.—No. 647. *Shakespeare, and some of his glorious Creations*. R. C. Lucas. In design, similar to the Wellington shield, shewing great imagination, however, in the artist. Of the busts, we especially remarked No. 627, *Bust of the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel*, Bart. M.P. N. Palmer.—No. 628. *Bust of Lady Charlotte Bury*. R. C. Lucas.—No. 629, *Marble Bust of Lord Brougham*.—No. 607. *Bust of J. Martin, Esq, Painter of Belshazzar's Feast*, &c. H. Weeks; and No. 610. *Bust of Haydon, the Painter*. P. Park.

It is with extreme regret that our limits, the numerous publications of art, and the forthcoming exhibitions, will not allow us to notice some of the very clever paintings placed in the sculpture-room.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Selections and Fragments of the Architecture of the Middle Ages. Drawn from Nature, and on Stone, by Joseph Nash. M'Lean.

WE have seen some specimens of a work under the above title, which is preparing for publication, and can truly say of them, that they fully maintain the high character of Mr. Nash as an architectural draughtsman. "The great study and attention," says the publisher, in his prospectus, "that have of late years been bestowed upon the architecture of the middle ages,—the more general adoption of the styles of these ages in the present practice of architecture, must necessarily render acceptable any publication that tends to familiarise the public with the striking and various beauties the edifices of the above ages display. The object of this work is not so much an illustration of any particular tour (as in most works of this kind), nor a delineation of those leading features which the traveller cannot avoid seeing, as it is intended to introduce to the lover of art those exquisite fragments and picturesque points of view, which abound in and about the buildings of the period above named: such as porches, shrines, tombs, and other interior arrangements, which, although, probably, not so familiar as subjects of more scale and pretension, yet form not the less the admiration of the man of refined taste, and study of the architect."

A Series of Views in France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Holland, &c.; from Sketches made during a Tour on the Continent in 1837. By T. M. Richardson, jun. M'Lean.

WE have also seen specimens of this projected publication, the production of a young artist, who is evidently possessed of very superior talents; but we will postpone any detailed notice of them until the whole work shall be before us.

Sketches on the Danube, in Hungary and Transylvania. By George Herring. M'Lean.

A THIRD graphic work, preparing by the same active publisher, of which we have likewise seen some beautiful specimens. It is stated, and, as it appears to us, on just grounds, that "the historical interest which attaches to Hungary, for so many years the bulwark of Europe against Moslim invasion; the cradle of constitutional liberty and religious tolerance; the land of the brave and warlike Magyars; joined to its importance at the present moment, when

Hungarian enterprise has opened the riches of the Danube to the commerce of Europe, and its beauties to the research of the traveller, have led the artist to hope for a favourable reception of his labours."

MUSIC.

Royal Academy of Music; Hanover Square Rooms.—An opera, in two acts, the music composed by Lord Burghersh, and called *'Il Torneo (The Tournament)*, was rehearsed to a very numerous audience on Thursday afternoon. It is one of that class of composition to which we always feel an inclination to apply the term delightful; for, though there is nothing very grand in the conception, there is much soft and charming music, and, being sung so admirably as this was, it quite carries one with it. Signor Ivanhoff and Mr. Stretton, Mrs. H. Bishop and Miss Fanny Wyndham, were the leading singers. The choruses, which are certainly the best and most original parts in the opera, were placed in excellent hands when they were given to the students of the Royal Academy, who, as well as the above-named principals, exerted themselves to the utmost, and sent ourselves, as well as, to all appearances, the rest of their audience, home very much delighted.

Ancient Concerts.—The ancient concert on Wednesday called forth the services of Braham, Phillips, Vaughan, Bennett, Stretton, Allen (a first appearance there), and Mesdames Knuyt, Bishop, Shaw, and F. Wyndham. The selection, under the auspices of Lord Burghersh, was very good; and the concert was rendered remarkable by the introduction of two specimens of Sebastian Bach's choral music, which had been carefully rehearsed, and went off with great effect. A solo in the *Magnificat* was so unattractive in character as to give reason to conclude that Bach cannot rank very high as a melodist, however he may excel in harmony and counterpoint. It cannot be denied, however, that his choral compositions possess much grandeur and elevation of character, and are worthy to rank with those of Handel. But his general claims as a composer cannot, by any unprejudiced mind, be put in competition with those of "the mighty master" who produced the *Messiah* and *Israel in Egypt*. The first concert, under the direction of the Duke of Cambridge, and the second, under that of the Archbishop of York, consisted chiefly of old stock-pieces, and called for no particular observation.

DRAMA.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—The re-appearance of Grisi and Lablache is all we have to notice at this theatre. It is stated that Grisi and Persiani are not to sing together.

Haymarket.—In the *Hunchback*, Miss Elphinstone has assumed the character of *Julia*, and fully sustained the opinion we expressed of her powers to take a very prominent part in the serious business of the stage. In all that required strong feeling and passion, her acting was truly excellent. Mrs. Fitzwilliam played *Helen* with great archness; Knowles himself was *Walter*; young Glover very clever in *Sir T. Clifford*; Buckstone exceedingly droll in *Fathom*; and Webster made the slight part of *Lord Tinsel* a prominent hit in the general composition of the drama.—In *St. Mary's Eve*, Buckstone's *Tom Baggs* kept the house in roars of laughter throughout the piece.

St. James's.—At the close of the week, Miss Williams, the *débütante* of whose appearance we spoke in terms of praise last Saturday, had

an opportunity afforded her, in consequence of the indisposition of Mrs. Honey, of displaying more of her talent for the stage; giving up *Amphitrite* for *Leander*. In this part she looked quite the Grecian youth to charm a hero, and acted with great grace and spirit. The music, alone, was missing. Miss Mordaunt, also, gains confidence in the latter, and the whole mythological burletta goes off trippingly with *éclat*.

VARIETIES.

The British Association.—The assembling at Newcastle is appointed to commence on Monday, the 20th of August. The country around Newcastle is so favourable for many scientific pursuits, and the town itself is so distinguished for science and literature, that a very interesting meeting may be anticipated.

The Copyright Bill was read a second time on Wednesday, by a majority of five, in spite of a strong and interested opposition to the creators of literary property, whose claims seem by many persons to be deemed *wrongs* instead of *rights*. We observe that further attempts are announced to impede or defeat this measure, which, in our opinion, only requires the modifications it might receive in committee, to be just to all parties, and of singular benefit to the public.

Impromptu.

Serjeant Talfourd is right, when for authors he's pleading; Who should plead in their cause but the member for Reading? S. LOVER.

Mr. Serjeant Talfourd's play is unavoidably postponed, in consequence, say the announcements, of the sudden indisposition of Miss Huddart (Mrs. Warner); who presented the world with a little daughter, on Thursday evening.

Shakespeare's Cliff.—A portion of this most poetical of rocks was recently detached, in consequence of cutting for the railroad tunnel, and fell prone to the beach below. What imagery could the bard have combined for so strange and incongruous an accident?

Masquerade.—Another masquerade was given by Mr. Obbard, at the English Opera House, on Wednesday. We were unable to attend, but hear it went off with much spirit.

Half a Whale caught.—A Number we lately received of "The Hobart Town Courier" (No. 576, Vol. X.), in a flattering account of the productiveness of the Whale Fisheries, gives a list of the number of whales already caught, Sept. 1st, on the adjacent coasts; and, among others, states that Mr. Petchey had, in Research Bay, caught "twenty-two and a half!"—the whole number being 266½.

Christie and Manson's Private View of Illustrious Portraits.—This splendid and unique collection of portraits of all the most eminent sovereigns, heroes, and statesmen of British history, was formed for the execution of Lodge's great work of portraits and biography, and is to be viewed next Tuesday and Wednesday, previously to being disposed of on the two ensuing days. Our own opinion of these beautiful portraits has been already recorded, and a prefatory "Notice" to the Catalogue declares the object for which they were executed,—justly observing, that the high character they have acquired has been obtained by their undoubted authenticity. "It is upon this fact," says the Catalogue, "that the high reputation awarded to these works has been established; for, in addition to the beauty and finish of enamel paintings, they possess the high quality of being faithful transcripts of the originals,—an advantage so frequently lost by the rotundity of sur-

face acquired in the uncertain process of enamelling."

Bulls.—Speaking of bulls, the following is not a bad English one:—A paragraph respecting the late John Reeve, which has run through all the newspapers, begins thus: "The will of the immortal John Reeve," &c. &c. Only to think of an *Immortal's* last will and testament!

Roman Antiquities.—One of the tumuli, at Bartlow Hills, about six miles north of Saffron Walden, Essex, was, on the 17th, opened by a tunnel, in the presence of Lord Maynard (the proprietor of the land) and his lady, Lord and Lady Braybrook, Mr. Sedgwick, Professor Henslow, and others, of which the following account is given in the newspapers. The easternmost hill of the upper range of tumuli was entered by an excavation three and a-half feet wide, seven feet high, and forty-four feet in length, to the centre of the hill, where was discovered, encased in strong Roman cement, a wooden chest (which crumbled to dust on the admission of air), about three feet square, in which were found deposited the following curious antique relics:—A Roman urn, of red earth, in a fine state of preservation, and beautiful shape, containing charred bones and ashes; a bronze lamp with stem, acting on a swivel, with hook, by which it may have been suspended; a square vitrea amphora, or glass vase, with two handles, beautifully ribbed, holding about half a gallon, filled with small bones and other matter not yet known; two patere, or cups, without handles, of fine red earth, used by the Romans in taking wine; two red earthen dishes, for perfumes and spices, used at their funeral ceremonies; a small lagena, or flagon (for wine), of bronze, of the most beautiful form and workmanship, the foot of which was broken off in the removal; a small bronze thuribulum, or censer, for burning incense, with horizontal handles, most exquisitely wrought, but broken off in the removal; an oblong vitrea amphora, or glass vase (with two handles), holding two quarts, half filled with a pale straw-coloured and transparent liquor, supposed to consist of mingled water, wine, and oil, part of which had, probably, been used as a libation, and sprinkled as a last tribute of friendship on the ashes of the deceased, as was the custom amongst the Romans. Some other articles of less note were also found; and the whole were carefully conveyed to an adjacent farm-house, on the estate of Lord Maynard, for a more minute examination.

The Derby for 1837 (London, Moore).—The lovers of sporting subjects will be delighted with two splendid prints, just published, and illustrating the two most interesting points in the last Derby race, namely, "the Start," and "the Coming In." These prints, the largest and most elaborate we have seen in their department of art, are got up on a magnificent scale, being coloured with a care and brilliancy rarely observable in subjects of their kind. They are engraved by Hunt, after pictures by Turner, and give vivid and faithful representations of the scene they commemorate. The jockeys and horses are all portraits; the latter being effectively grouped, and some of them, when upon the turn, or breast-forward to the spectator, foreshortened with great skill and effect.

Abelard.—A manuscript of songs, written and composed by the celebrated and unfortunate scholar, Abelard, has, it is stated, been recently discovered in the Vatican Library, with the original musical notation, which the Abbé

Baini is engaged in translating into modern notes, with the view to publication.

American Extracts.—The American newspapers present many drolleries so different from those at home, that we are inclined to copy a few recent specimens, to amuse our readers.—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*

Packing a Jury.—During a protracted trial that was adjourned until the following day, in one of the interior towns of America, the twelve jurors were stowed away for the night, in a single bed, in a room 6 feet by 3!

In Time of Peace prepare for War.—At Cape Cod, New England, as soon as a young lady is engaged to be married, she suffers her finger nails to grow long, so that, in case she should be obliged to throw herself on her reserved rights, she may come to the *scratch* with some prospect of success.

An Eulogy.—An orator, holding forth in favour of "woman, dear, divine woman," he concluded with these words, "Oh! my hearers, depend upon it nothing beats a good wife." "I beg your pardon," replied one of his auditors, "a bad husband does."

Duelling.—The courage of duellists has recently been tested in the affair of two members of Congress, who, in performance of their legislative duties, have thought it necessary to blackguard each other in the foulest terms; their charges and aspersions involving not only their political, but their moral character also, and a duel was thought to be the inevitable result. They are both professed duellists, both fond of fighting, and both have more than once displayed their *courage*. One is a dead shot with hair triggers, at eight paces; the other equally unerring in his aim with his rifle, at thirty: of course, the expected duel has not yet come off. The laws of duelling allowing the challenged to choose the weapon, each of these redoubtable heroes is *afraid* to challenge his antagonist.

A Tavern Incident.—A traveller domiciling at an American hotel, exclaimed one morning to the waiter, "What are you about, you black rascal, you have roused me twice from my sleep by telling me breakfast is ready, and now you are attempting to strip off the bed clothes; what do you mean?" "Why," replied Pompey, "if you isn't goin to git up, I must hab de sheet any how, 'cause dey'r waitin for de table clof."

A New York Paper urges every one that can, to see a picture that is only on exhibition for one short week. The subject, a *Cleopatra by Guido!* destined for the *National Gallery in London!* A Mr. Earle, too, we are informed, is busily and laudably engaged in *re-touching* the said *Guido*, to render it worthy (we suppose) of a place on the walls of Mr. Wilkins's gimmerack.

Quite Comfortable.—At Indianapolis, capital of Indiana, in the United States, and 40° of N. latitude, the thermometer was down to 22° below zero on February 21st, last.

The Rebel Mackenzie, having failed in his military speculation, is about to try his hand at a newspaper; he has issued a prospectus for a journal to be published at New York.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

From the "Foreign Quarterly Review" No. XLi:—"A large fire which broke out in one of the outhouses of Cotta's printing-office at Stuttgart, in January last, consumed a large part of the building and the type-foundry. It has burnt whole editions of works which were to have appeared at Easter, together with a great part of the new edition of Goethe's and Schiller's Werke."

"Bignon has lately again made the Belgian piracies of French books the subject of his reflections, in which he avers it is still more melancholy light than before, con-

necting it with the railway communication between the two countries. The moment, says he, a book is published in Paris, it will be reprinted at Bruxelles, and distributed by thousands all over France. All measures against it will be fruitless. Either Belgium must be induced to introduce the same laws with respect to booksellers and authors in connexion with France, or the book-selling trade, if not the literature, of France will be ruined. The author must throw away his pen, the printer his press, and the paper-maker his paper, and all persons connected with literary pursuits will sink into misery. He complains that the ministries for public education and for foreign affairs do not see the importance of the subject. He very much censures the plan of the commission for the investigation of this affair last year, of forming a code of press-laws for all Europe. In his opinion, this plan ought, in the first place, only to be extended to Belgium and French Switzerland, where, he says, the true enemy is. England, Germany, and all other countries in which French is not spoken, are not to be feared."

Even Slavonian scholars are now travelling to Rome to consult its literary stores for enlightening their own history. The author of the latest and best history of Bohemia, Francis Palacki, has returned to Prague, after a sojourn of five months at Rome. He has discovered in the collection of ancient records in the Papal archives, a rich source of information, relating to the history of the last Bohemian kings of the house of Presnylen, and the two first kings of the Luxembourg line. In the Vatican library, Palacki also discovered the first sketch of the second book of the 'Chronicon Aulae Regiae,' by the Abbot Peter, in which he found many erasures and corrections; also, an autograph copy of Aeneas Sylvius, 'De Viris Illustribus,' hitherto unpublished, which contains the character of his principal contemporaries. Long ago, the Count Raczyński, the well-known Polish author, undertook a scientific tour through Italy. He found in the records of the old Venetian republic, several large volumes, containing the relations of the accredited Venetian ambassador at the Polish court. From seven volumes, in particular, he obtained much information respecting Johann III. Sobieski. Raczyński has, with the permission of the Austrian government, ordered this portion to be copied. Also in other archives and libraries, in particular those at Padua, and the Ambrosian, in Milan, he found collections of information hitherto unused by Polish historians, which also yielded many particulars relative to the histories of the kings Sigismund Augustus, Henry of Valois, and of Stephen Batony, which are of great importance."

"In the year 1836, 674 original works, and 124 translations, were published in Russia, not including 46 periodicals. The government seems desirous of preventing the publication of any new periodical, at least it will not license a private person to put forth any. The number of books published in 1836, greatly exceeds that of 1835. Scientific works, dramas, and school-books, seem to have increased; and, on the other hand, novels and romances decreased, both in number and bulk. 350,000 volumes of foreign books were imported into Russia that year, full one half of which were bought at St. Petersburg."

"The public library at St. Petersburg received an addition of 27,000 volumes during the year 1836. It now contains 423,150 volumes, and 17,234 manuscripts."

In the Press.

Mr. Wyndham Bruce Pryce announces a new Translation of Schlegel's Lectures on Dramatic Literature, from the last German edition. — By Mr. William Howitt, Colonisation and Christianity; a popular History of the Treatment of the Natives in all their Colonies by the Europeans. — Professor T. R. Jones, of King's College, London, announces, A General Outline of the Animal Kingdom, exhibiting the Structure and Internal Economy of every Class of Living Beings, and their Adaptation to the Circumstances in which they are severally destined to exist. — A Treatise on the Art of Fly-Fishing, Trolling, &c., applicable to every Trout and Gravelly River in the Empire; by W. Shipley; edited by Edward Fitzgibbon. — The Reverend Joseph Wolff, Missionary to the Jews, intends to publish the Journals of his Missionary labours, from the year 1827 to 1831, in Holland, Germany, Malta, the Greek Islands, Egypt, Jerusalem, and Cyprus; and, also, of his subsequent travels to the year 1836, in various distant regions. — Relics of Elijah the Tishbite.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Biographical Treasury; from the earliest period of history to the present time, by S. Maunder, one thick vol. 12mo. 8s. 6d. — Lives of the most Eminent Foreign Statesmen, by G. P. R. James, Esq., 5th and concluding volume, (forming vol. 102 of Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia), 6-caps. 8vo. 3s. — Harmonia Sacra, by E. Sanderson, folio, 15s. — Seven Plays of Sophocles, edited by Brasse, Burgess, and Valpy; 2 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 14s. — Five Plays of Euripides, edited by Major, post 8vo. 24s. — Wall's Practical Logic, 18mo. 1s. 6d. — Spirit of Chambers's Journal, Vol. V. 12mo. 4s. — Tannahill's Poems and Songs, by Ramsay, 18mo. — Cookery and Domestic Economy, 18mo. 1s. 6d. — Prison Scenes and Narrative of Escape from France during the late war, by S. Ellison, post 8vo. 10s. — The Practices of the Early Christians

Considered, by H. Bannerman, post 8vo. 4s. 6d. — Rudiments of the Latin Language, by the Rev. W. Foster, 12mo. 2s. 6d.; ditto, Greek language, by ditto, 12mo. 4s. — Rev. J. Mansfield's Sermons, 12mo. 2s. 6d. — Rev. W. Iron's Parochial Lectures, 2d Series, 8vo. 4s. 6d. — Art and Artists in England, by G. F. Waagen, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. — Linnington's Rhetorical Speaker, 3d edition, 12mo. 3s. 6d. — Rev. W. J. E. Bennett's Sermons, Vol. I. post 8vo. 6s. 6d. — The State of Popery, &c. in England, by the Rev. T. Lathbury, 12mo. 6s. — Smuggler's Children; a Tale, by L. H. Budgen, 1s. 6d. — Book of Quadrupeds, by Bilby and Ridgway, square, 4s. 6d. — Juvenile Artist, from the German of Barth, by Jackson, 1s. 6d. — Bentham's Works, by Dr. Bowring, Part III. 9s. — Plain Digest of the Law of Wills, 12mo. 2s. 6d. — W. B. Dickson on Poultry, 12mo. 6s. — The Life of William Wilberforce, by his two Sons, 5 vols. post 8vo. 2l. 5s. — Six Years in Biscay, by J. F. Bacon, 8vo. 14s. — Fendens' Portraits of the Female Aristocracy, No. I. folio, 12s. — Recollections of Caulincourt, Duke of Vicenza, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s. — The Fan-Qui in China, in 1836-7, by C. T. Downing, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. — The Practical Works of Jeremy Taylor, D.D., edited by Dr. Croly, 5 vols. post 8vo. 2l. 5s. — Walter Deverell, a Domestic Tale, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. — Esther Copley's Word to Parents, Nurses, &c., 18mo. 1s. 6d. — Dr. W. Besant's Experiments on Digestion, with Notes, &c., by Dr. A. Combe, post 8vo. 7s. — Sir A. Carlisle on the Preservation of Health, 8vo. — Gems of Genius, or Words of the Wise, by A. Steimmetz, 18mo. 5s. — Thome's Pocket German Dictionary, 32mo. 4s. — Hedley's German Dialogues, square 3s. 6d. — Diary of the Times of George IV., new edition, 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s. — The Missionary Farewell; Valedictory Services of the Rev. J. Williams, 18mo. 2s. — Baxter's Saints' Rest, new edition, the 2007, 2 vols. 12mo. 18s. — Joseph, a Model for the Young, by E. Leighton, 18mo. 3s. — The Bricklayer's Pocket Director, by J. Bennett, 18mo. 3s.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL. 1838.

April.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 5	From 38 to 50	29.94 to 29.95
Friday .. 6	41 .. 60	29.98 .. 29.90
Saturday .. 7	45 .. 52	29.95 .. 29.94
Sunday .. 1	35 .. 47	29.13 .. 29.45
Monday .. 6	31 .. 48	29.05 .. 29.88
Tuesday .. 10	25 .. 65	29.05 .. 30.30
Wednesday 11	45 .. 67	30.04 .. 30.05

Winds, W. and S.W.

Except the 6th, 7th, and morning of the 8th; generally clear, rain on 5th, 6th, and 7th.

Rain fallen .3875 of an inch.

April.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 12	32 to 57	30.09 to 30.12
Friday .. 13	29 .. 51	30.14 .. 30.04
Saturday .. 14	30 .. 50	29.98 .. 29.97
Sunday .. 15	36 .. 61	29.75 .. 29.68
Monday .. 16	26.5 .. 40	29.66 .. 29.60
Tuesday .. 17	25 .. 45	29.57 .. 29.64
Wednesday 18	26 .. 39	29.64 .. 29.71

Winds, W. by N., and W. by S.

Except the 15th, cloudy; snow and hail on the 16th and 18th, and rain on the 17th.

Rain fallen .2 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Latitude .. 51° 37' 32" N.

Longitude .. 0 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the Meteorological Society. March 1838.

Thermometer—Highest	58.50 ..	the 29th.
Lowest	22.25 ..	31st.
Mean	38.1959	
Barometer—Highest	30.24 ..	29th.
Lowest	29.74 ..	4th.
Mean	29.92838	

Number of days of rain, 14.

Quantity of rain in inches and decimals, 1.4375.

Winds.—1 North-East—6 East—1 South-East—2 South—9 South-West—9 West—1 North-West—3 North.

General Observations.—In every respect the month was warmer than in March last year, the mean was 2.91 above the mean then, and the maximum was above the average of the month. The quantity of rain was more than in 1837, although there were fifteen fair days. The barometer very unsteady, and the range one inch and a half; some of the variations very great, particularly on the 4th and 5th. The wind blew from the southward and westward on nineteen days; the weather squally from the 17th to the 21st inclusive. On the 30th a very heavy squall about 10 A.M. attended by a little rain. The six days of the month were very windy, and the month closed with the minimum of temperature.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Part I. of Mr. E. W. Lane's new translation of the 'Arabian Nights' Tales,' embellished after designs by Harvey, has reached us too late for such notice as its extreme beauty as a production of art, and great merits in a literary point of view, pre-eminently demand. Mr. Lane's Notes are full of curious information; and nothing can surpass the character and attractions of the engravings. The work will be a splendid one.

"J. B." too late for this week.

"Malvolio" is in type, and only waits opportunity.

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

BRITISH INSTITUTION,

FALL MALL.
The Gallery, for the Exhibition and Sale of the Works of British Artists, is open daily, from Ten in the Morning till Five in the Evening.

Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 1s.
WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS, at their Gallery, Pall Mall East, will open on Monday next, April 30th.

Open each day, from Nine till Dusk.
Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 6d.
H. HILLS, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—The

Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, is now open, from Nine in the Morning till Dusk.

Admission, 1s.
H. E. DAWK, Secretary.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Under the Patronage of the Queen.

Established in 1810.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, Aug. 2, 1807.
The Twenty-Ninth Anniversary Dinner, will take place in Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 13th of May, 1858.

H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.G. in the Chair.

St. George's Hall, on Saturday, the 13th of May, 1858.
The Earl of Eiden—the Lord Viscount Fitzalan, M.P.

Sir George Corbett—Sir Moses Montefiore,

Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

Richard Bright, Esq.
Samuel Carrington, Esq.
James Edmund Chambers, Esq.
Abraham Cooper, Esq. R.A.
George Cruikshank, Esq.
Charles Dickens, Esq.
William Finden, Esq.
Thomas Griffiths, Esq.
C. Douglas Halford, Esq.
W. S. Inman, Esq.
Thomas Kemp, Esq.

Rev. John W. Mackie, M.A.

F.R.S.

Samuel Manning, Esq.

Jeremiah Olive, Esq.

Henry Ross, Esq.

W. H. Simmons, Esq.

W. C. Towers, Esq.

Charles Eden Winstaff, Esq.

Samuel Charles Weston, Esq.

William Wyon, Esq. R.A.

John Martin, Sec.

Tickets, 5s. to be had of the Stewards, or at the Bar of the

Freemasons' Tavern.—Dinner on Table at Half-past Five for this

preliminary.

NELSON MONUMENT.

THE COMMITTEE for erecting a MONUMENT to the Memory of LORD NELSON, hereby give notice, that they are desirous of receiving from Architects, Artists, or other Persons, Designs for such a Monument to be erected in Trafalgar Square.

The Committee cannot, in the present state of the subscription, fix definitely the sum to be expended; but they recommend that the estimated cost of the several Designs should be confined within the sums of 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.*

This condition, and that of the intended site, are the only

restrictions to which the Artists are limited.

The Designs, sealed, and marked within and without with the Designer's name, or any mark he may choose to adopt, and a note of his estimate of the cost, are to be delivered on or before the 30th of June next, addressed to Charles D. Scott, Esq. at No. 22 New Bridge Street, Blackfriars.

By direction of the Committee,
CHARLES D. SCOTT, Man. Sec.

April 11, 1858.

A NEW PEN-HOLDER.

S. MORDAN AND CO.'S SELF-ADJUSTING PEN-HOLDER is the most moderate in price, as well as the most simple and complete, as it accommodates itself to every description of Pen.

Also, a very neat, cheap, and secure Travelling or Desk Ink-Glass, with rotary top, in bronze or white metal. Both these articles are in great demand, and highly approved of by the first establishment in London.

Manufactured, 22 Castle Street, Finsbury.

FINDEN'S ROYAL GALLERY OF

BRITISH ART.
The First Part of this Work will be published on the 5th of May.

London: Published for the Proprietors by F. G. Moon, by special appointment Printer in ordinary to Her Majesty, 30 Threadneedle Street; and at 18 and 19 Southampton Place, Russell Square.

INJUNCTION.—CARPENTER'S

SPELLING-ASSISTANT.—Notice is hereby given, that an Order for an Injunction was made by His Honour the Vice Chancellor, on the 18th instant, to restrain Samuel Jefferson, of Carlisle, Bookseller, from selling or disposing of, and from exposing to sale, or procuring to be sold or disposed of, or exposed to sale, any copy or copies of the books printed and published in Ireland, and called respectively "The Scholar's Spelling Assistant," by Thomas Carpenter, published by John Gamming, of Dublin, and "Carpenter's Scholar's Spelling Assistant," published by Simms and McIntyre, of Belfast, or either of them, and from otherwise infringing and invading the Copyright of Messrs. Longman and Co. and Messrs. Whittaker and Co. the proprietors of the work entitled "The Scholar's Spelling Assistant," by Thomas Carpenter; which Injunction was issued accordingly; and all persons are hereby cautioned from selling or exposing to sale the said pirated editions, as they will be proceeded against forthwith on so doing.

30 Pall Mall News, April 24, 1858.

MAPS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE DIFFU-

SION OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

No. 71, containing Ireland, in Two Parts, was this day published, and may be obtained at the Society's Office, 20 Lincoln's Inn Fields, from Ten till Five o'clock.

No. 72 will be published at the same place, on the 15th of May.

20th April, 1858. THOMAS COATES, Secretary.

HEELEY and SON'S superior STEEL

PENS, manufactured at Birmingham, and sold in London by R. Groombridge, Panzer Alley, Paternoster Row.

Heeley's Diamond Pen, adapted for expedition Writing, and possessing extraordinary flexibility. 12 Pens on a card, and Holder, price 1*s.*

Also,

The Diamond Pen, broad points, adapted for Schools, Music, Engraving, &c.

12 Pens on a card, price 1*s.*

Heeley's Macrostyle, or Swan-quill Pen, a most durable Office Pen.

In a box, containing 12 Pens and Holder, price 2*s.*

Heeley's Ladies' Ruby Pen, particularly suited for neat Writing, Mapping, &c.

12 Pens on a card, price 1*s.*

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12 Pens on a card, price 1*s.*

Heeley's Rhadiographic Nibs, with serrated opening. 12 Pens on a card, price 1*s.*

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Heeley's Ever-pointed Pencils, with Pens, price 1*s.* 6*d.* each.

Ditto, ditto, beautifully ornamented, price 2*s.* each.

Heeley's superior ever-pointed Pencil-Cases, with Seal Tops and Reserve, price 2*s.* each.

Ditto, ditto, with Tassie Tops and Reserves, 1*s.* 6*d.* each.

••• Packets of the best Cumberland Leads, either "H." or "M." only 1*s.* each.

SALES BY AUCTION.

The Original Drawings for Lodge's Portraits.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON

Respectfully inform the Nobility and Public, that

ON THURSDAY, MAY 3d, AND

FOLLOWING DAY,

They will Sell by Auction,

AT THEIR GREAT ROOM, KING STREET,

ST. JAMES'S SQUARE,

At One precisely,

The Entire Collection of Portraits

Of all the most illustrious and Eminent Persons of British History, from Henry VIII. to the present time, selected (with permission) from the Royal Collections, from the Galleries of the Nobility and Gentry, and from the Public Collections throughout the Kingdom. They are most elaborately finished in the highest style of art, and were executed for Mr. Lodge's great Works of Illustrations Portraits, by W. Hutton, Esq. R.A., the late Mr. Jackson, R.A., Mr. Derby, Mr. Wynn, A.R.A., Mr. Satchell, and Mr. Lewis, and are in the most perfect preservation. Each Portrait is separately framed, and protected with Plate Glass, measuring in height 12 inches by 10½ in width, in which the spirit and interest of the Original Pictures are rendered in a most convenient size, either as Ornamental Portraits for the Cabinet or for the Library.

To the possessors of Lodge's valuable Work of Portraits and Biography, the present dispersion of this fine Collection affords the only opportunity that can ever present itself, to acquire specimens of the Original Pictures, from which the Engravings in that Work have been executed, and forming the most appropriate and interesting illustration of, and companion to, it.

The Collections from which the Portraits have been obtained are those of

Her Majesty

The Duke of Norfolk

The Duke of Richmond

The Duke of Beaufort

The Duke of Leeds

The Duke of Bedford

The Duke of Devonshire

The Duke of Hamilton

The Duke of Northumberland

The Duke of Buccleuch

The Duke of Sutherland

The Duke of Newcastle

The Duke of Gordon

The Duke of Argyll

The Duke of Montrose

The Duke of Dorset.

Gentlemen residing in the Country, or who cannot attend the Sale, may have their Commissions faithfully executed by Messrs. Christie and Manson, who will forward Catalogues and Cards to view, upon application.

At the same time, SIXTEEN COPIES OF THE GREAT WORK OF LODGE, of the largest Paper, and with additional Proofs, all on India Paper.

Catalogues will be ready One Month prior to the Sale, and may be viewed the 1st and 2d of May.

••• To avoid mistakes, it is requested that commissions may refer both to number and name in the catalogue, when particular portraits are desired; but when the object is to secure one or more specimens of the collection generally, gentlemen by so stating their instructions, will enable Messrs. Christie and Manson to execute them with greater certainty.

The well-selected Pictures by A. Delahante, Esq. Deceased.

MR. PHILLIPS respectfully notifies that he is authorised to Sell by Auction, on Friday, May 4, and Following Days at his Great Rooms, Bond Street, at One Precisely,

The Pleasing and Valuable Collection of Pictures,

Selected during the life-time of the distinguished and esteemed amateur,

ALEXIS DELAHANTE, Esq.,

Expert du Musée at Paris, lately deceased,

Whose experience and confirmed judgment have long been known and appreciated both in England and in France. This collection is distinguished for several pictures of high class, including one by Raffaele, a small cabinet picture by Correggio, two magnificent gallery paintings by Pynacker, and others by

Titian Ruydael Claude Vernet

Giorgione Hobbema Metzua Terburg

Hackney Cuyt Watteau A. Stock.

Also a collection of bronzes and marble busts, a coffee, and subjects of vertu.—May be viewed, two days previous to the sale, and catalogues had at Mr. Phillips's, 73 in Bond Street.

BOOKS IN THE PRESS.

On the 1st of May will be published, price 2*s.* 6*d.* No. III. of

THE MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

Principal Contributors—

E. L. BULWER, Esq. M.P., Dr. LARDNER, &c. &c.

Principal Contents—

Life and Writings of Scott Warning and Ventilating—

Character and Speeches of Lord Arnold's and Joyce's Novels

Brougham Ziczi, a Tale (continued).

The Irish Church &c. &c. (concluded).

London: Longman, Orme, and Co.

On May 1st will be published, No. IV. of

HOOD'S OWN, containing, amongst other

Articles, "The Black and White Question," and "The Disbanding of the Yeomanry," with numerous illustrations.

London: A. H. Bailey and Co. 85 Cornhill.

MR. SERJEANT TALFOURD'S NEW TRAGEDY.

On Monday, April 30th, will be published, price 4*s.* covered,

THE ATHENIAN CAPTIVE; a

Tragedy, in Five Acts.

By MR. SERJEANT TALFOURD, M.P.

Just published, price 4*s.*

Ion; a Tragedy.

4th edition; to which are added Sonnets and a new Preface.

Edward Moxon, Dover Street.

SLAVE TRADE IN THE EAST INDIES.—

FARBURY'S ORIENTAL HERALD, for May, to be published on Monday next, price 2*s.* 6*d.* will, among other valuable original Papers, contain most important details relative to the Deposition of the Hill Coolies from India to British Guiana, the Mauritius, &c. The intelligence from all parts of the East is highly interesting, and is brought down to the latest period, viz. beginning of March, from Bombay, and middle of February from Madras and Calcutta.

Farbury and Co. 8 Leadenhall Street, and all Booksellers

in Town and Country.

Of whom may still be had,

The former Four Numbers.

In the press, and will be published early in May, in 1 vol.

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POETIC FRAGMENTS.

By D. ROSS LEITCH, M.D.

London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., and J. Philipson,

Borough of Tynemouth.

In a few days, in 2 vols. 8*s.*

MONTROSE and the COVENANTERS;

their Characters and Conduct illustrated, from private Letters and other original Documents, hitherto unpublished, embracing the Times of Charles the First, from the Rise of the Troubles in Scotland to the Death of Montrose.

By MARK NAPIER, Esq. Advocate.

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Contents:—

1. Life and Times of Sir Edward Coke

2. Whitefield: Pulpit Eloquence

3. Life of Chatterton

4. Sir Francis Palgrave's Truths and Fictions of the Middle Ages

5. Illustrations of the Working of a State Church: Life of the late Bishop of Norwich

6. Arnold on Warning and Ventilating

7. Historical History of England, hitherto unpublished

8. Division on Sir George Strickland's Motion: Influence of Ministerial Policy, &c. &c.

London: William Bell, Paternoster Row.

DEBRET'S COMPLETE PEERAGE

of the United Kingdom of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.

Edited by WILLIAM COUTHOPPE, Esq.

In this New Edition (the Twenty Second) the Arms will be incorporated with the Text, and a Portrait of Her Majesty Queen Victoria will be given, beautifully engraved by T. A. Dean, from a Drawing by Jenkins.

J. G. & F. Rivington, and other Proprietors.

WESTWOOD ON INSECTS.

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CLASSIFICATION OF INSECTS: comprising an Account of the Habits and Transformations of the different Families; a Synopsis of all the British, and a Notice of the more remarkable Exotic Genera.

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London: Longman, Orme, and Co.

On Wednesday, May 9th, the following Works will be published by Messrs. Longman and Co.

I.
LIFE AND ADMINISTRATION OF EDWARD, FIRST EARL OF CLARENDON, with Original Correspondence and Authentic Papers, never before published. By THOMAS HENRY LISTER, Esq. 4 cloth vol. 8vo. with Portrait and Facsimiles, price 2s. 6d. cloth lettered.

II.
MR. BAKEWELL'S INTRODUCTION TO GEOLOGY, Fifth Edition, considerably enlarged from the Fourth Edition, and with new Sections and Cuts, price One Guinea, cloth lettered.

III.
PETER PLYMLEY'S LETTERS. New edition, post 8vo. 7s. cloth lettered.

IV.
A HISTORY OF PRICES, with Reference to the Causes of their Principal Variations, from 1799 to the Present Time. By Thomas Tooke, Esq. F.R.S. 2 vols. 8vo. price 1s. 10s. cloth lettered. On Friday, May 4.

V.
MR. BULWER'S NEW ROMANCE, LEILA; or, the Siege of Granada. Beautifully illustrated with Plates, and a Portrait of the Author, after Chalon, executed under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Heath. Royal 8vo. 1s. 11s. 6d.; India proof, 2s. 12s. 6d. On Monday, May 14. Lately published.

VI.
MR. JAMES'S ROBBERS. 3 vols. post 8vo. "The best of Mr. James's romances."—*Spectator*.

MR. HOWITT'S RURAL LIFE OF ENGLAND. 3 vols. numerous woodcuts, 24s. "As every reader loves rural scenery and character, it must, as it deserves to do, become very popular."—*Literary Gazette*.

MR. ROBY'S SEVEN WEEKS' TOUR. 2 vols. post 8vo. numerous Illustrations, 25s. cloth lettered. "Mr. Roby's tour on the continent is the best book of the kind that has issued from the press these fifty years."—*Standard*.

BOOKS PUBLISHED THIS DAY.

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The Monthly Magazine for May. Sherwood and Co. Paternoster Row, and by all Booksellers in Town and Country.
*Agents for Scotland, Griffin, Glasgow; and for Ireland, Tegg, Dublin.

The May Number of
COLBURN'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE AND HUMORIST.

Edited by THEODORE HOOK, Esq. Contains, among other interesting Papers, articles by the following Writers:

The Editor The Author of "Outward Bound" Miss Sheridan T. C. Grattan, Esq. Miss London John Caxton, Esq. M. J. Quin, Esq. author of "Nourmahad" B. Hill, Esq. H. Browning, Esq. Henry Colburn, Publisher, 19 Great Marlborough Street.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN REVIEW; or, EUROPEAN QUARTERLY JOURNAL. No. XII. contains—

1. The Works of Gray, by Mitford
2. Catholicism in England
3. Victor Hugo's Poems—*Les Fois Intérieures*
4. The Colonies and the Colonial Office
5. Commercial Relations between Poland and England
6. Pashley's Travels in Crete
7. Sir Edward Coke
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BOTANICAL WORKS, BY DR. LINDLEY, F.R.S. L.S. &c. &c. Professor of Botany in the University of London, &c.

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By W. BAXTER, A.L.S., F.H.S. Curator of the Oxford Botanic Garden; Author of "Stirps Cryptogamic Oxonienses." Oxford, published by the Author; sold by J. H. Parker; and Whittaker and Co., London.

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